



# SEVENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY 1953



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GENERAL REPORT OF THE  
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## CONTENTS

	PAGE
I. Annual Convention :	
The Presidential Address . . . . .	1
The Treasurer's Report . . . . .	11
II. Reports of the General Secretaries . . . . .	27
The Theosophical Society in United States of America . . . . .	29
" " England . . . . .	33
" " India . . . . .	35
" " Australia . . . . .	38
" " Sweden . . . . .	39
" " New Zealand . . . . .	40
" " Netherlands . . . . .	41
" " France . . . . .	42
" " Italy . . . . .	43
" " Germany . . . . .	44
" " Cuba . . . . .	45
" " Hungary . . . . .	No report
" " Finland . . . . .	46
" " Russia . . . . .	Dissolved
" " Czechoslovakia . . . . .	No report
" " Southern Africa . . . . .	47
" " Scotland . . . . .	49
" " Switzerland . . . . .	50
" " Belgium . . . . .	51
" " Indonesia . . . . .	No report
" " Burma . . . . .	52
" " Austria . . . . .	54
" " Norway . . . . .	55
" " Egypt . . . . .	No report
" " Denmark . . . . .	56
" " Ireland . . . . .	56
" " Mexico . . . . .	57
" " Canada . . . . .	59
" " Argentina . . . . .	59
" " Chile . . . . .	60
" " Brazil . . . . .	61

	PAGE
The Theosophical Society in Bulgaria . . .	No report
"    "    Iceland . . .	63
"    "    Spain . . .	No report
"    "    Portugal . . .	64
"    "    Wales . . .	64
"    "    Poland . . .	No report
"    "    Uruguay . . .	65
"    "    Puerto Rico . . .	66
"    "    Rumania . . .	No report
"    "    Yugoslavia . . .	No report
"    "    Ceylon Presidential Agency . . .	67
"    "    Greece . . .	68
"    "    Central America . . .	69
"    "    Paraguay . . .	No report
"    "    Peru . . .	No report
"    "    Philippines . . .	69
"    "    Colombia . . .	70
"    "    British East Africa . . .	71
"    "    Pakistan Presidential Agency . . .	72
"    "    Malaya & Singapore Presidential Agency . . .	No report
"    "    Northern Ireland . . .	73
"    "    Viet-Nam . . .	74
"    "    Israel Presidential Agency . . .	75
"    "    Japan . . .	No report
"    "    Venezuela . . .	76
"    "    Canadian Federation . . .	76
"    "    European Federation . . .	77
"    "    World Federation of Young Theosophists . . .	79
III. Headquarters, 1952—1953 . . .	80
The Adyar Library . . .	81
The School of the Wisdom . . .	84
IV. Memorandum of Association . . .	86
Rules and Regulations (January 1954) . . .	89
Directory for 1954 . . .	99
Minutes of the General Council . . .	101
Summary of Statistical Details, 1953 . . .	113

# PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

## TO THE 78TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

*Adyar, December 26, 1953*

By N. SRI RAM

SISTERS AND BROTHERS,

I bid you all a heart-felt welcome to Adyar, and wish you a happy time during the days and nights you are here. Adyar is not only the administrative headquarters of our world-wide Society, but also its spiritual heart and centre. To Adyar are turned the eager and friendly thoughts of many, many Theosophists all over the world, and from Adyar there goes out an influence—call it a stream of blessing—by which the world at large is helped, at least in some insensible measure. We have been led to think so; for there is surely a peace and a beauty here which all can feel and to which very many have given quite spontaneous testimony. While this peace and beauty is present at all times, it is especially evident at such times as our international Conventions.

Each Convention is to very many of those who attend it a landmark in their lives, and it is certainly also a landmark in the history of the Society. It is an occasion to "look before and after," not to "pine for what is not," but rather to discover what may be the meaning and significance of those things which are, with which we are immediately and practically concerned:

Life in all its aspects, the problem of our humanity, Truth, Happiness and whatever else we may consider to be involved in the operations of Nature and our free will.

Our purpose at these Conventions is not purely formal, although there is a form for everything that is and everything that is brought into being, which has to have its due attention. If our aim as Theosophists—a word which should have no mere verbal connotation—is to set a standard in everything, that aim must be reflected in the way we meet to confer, as much as in anything else. We have to learn to come together in such a way that heart speaks to heart and not only lips to ears. We may make plans, we may study statistics; all that seems to me to be but incidental to the living process of a discovery, which is Theosophy, which because living is to be discovered only in ourselves. We have to learn not only to speak, which is to express ourselves in all ways, but also to listen to the pure note of Truth, which listening is with an inward hearing that is silent and quiet. Then that note will be translated in a way that will carry it far and touch the hearts of all who are capable of an answering resonance; then there will

be evoked out of them the riches of its multitudinous tones and overtones.

Our purpose when we are together for a number of days is as much to retreat within ourselves as to advance boldly without, as much concerned with the way to the discovery of Truth or Theosophy—for Theosophy is Truth in its essence—as with the means of conveying such truth as we may have come to. I feel that as Theosophists we need to be ever humble, open, seeking to learn, seeking to understand. Where should this pure attitude obtain more than at our Conferences and Conventions where there is the possibility of a union of hearts, side by side with the meeting of free open minds, and an atmosphere conducive to a receptivity which we do not normally enjoy.

When the Convention was held here a year ago, we had with us our then leader and President, Mr. C. Jinarāja-dāsa, Brother Raja as he preferred to be called, in whom the Society had a proved leader to whom it was accustomed to turn for direction and guidance. His passing away on June 18th at Wheaton, Illinois, United States of America, came as an unexpected blow not only to very many who did not know how seriously ill he was, even when he was constantly protesting his illnesses, but also to those like myself, who knowing his condition, had nevertheless hoped that he would be with us for some more years. To him we owe a debt of gratitude which cannot possibly be repaid, except by continuing to the best of our ability the work with which he was so completely identified for a period of over fifty years. The issue of *The Theosophist* of August last contains many tributes which give some idea of the range and variety of his interests and his distinctive contribution to Theosophy and the Theosophical work. Having been a constant traveller, lecturer and writer, he had a knowledge

of every aspect of the Society's development almost since H.P.B.'s days, and of the thoughts and feelings of many members all over the world, which none of us living now can possibly approach. I know I am voicing the feelings of the whole Society when I say that his wisdom, the aroma of his influence, his activities along many different lines, and the memory of his life, rich in the help bestowed on innumerable people in many ways, will continue to inspire and help the Society's work for a long time to come.

It is our duty to fill the gap left by each leader who passes on. How shall we fill it? Outwardly by occupying the vacant offices; there may be as many lectures as before; we may put ourselves out more to gather more public attention. These things may be; they are but the outer aspect of the real work which determines the actuality of progress, namely, to bring into manifestation something of the Theosophy that is eternal in the heavens, that pure Wisdom wherein is Life and the meaning of Life in all its manifestations from the highest to the lowest, and to give to that something a fitting form and expression. This is a task which should engage not only our hands and minds but the capacity of our entire being.

Each of our great leaders, from our revered Founder H.P.B. onwards, has given something of his or her vision and understanding, and imparted to the Society some elements of his or her own distinctiveness, so that today the best thought of the Society and the way it influences us is a rich and comprehensive heritage. Yet this heritage should not be for us a mere accumulation, a treasure to be carefully preserved in bound volumes on special shelves. What is most precious in the message of each one of them is a living Wisdom which in so far as it has filtered into the hearts of any of us should be living and growing in our



lives. To each one of us who aspires to be a true Theosophist, Theosophy should mean a change based on his own understanding, which should begin in his heart and envelop his entire being. The future of the Society depends upon its being, which means *our* being, a channel for those forces which must eventually transform us wholly and completely, make new men and women out of the old humanity.

Others who have passed on during the year include two well-known figures whose lives were devoted to the spreading of Theosophy, Mr. L. W. Rogers in the United States and Miss Corrie Dijkgraaf in Holland. Mr. Rogers was for many years a National Lecturer and both through his writings and lectures took a leading part in building up the Theosophical movement in the United States, of which he was National President for eleven years. Miss Dijkgraaf became a member of the Society as long ago as 1896, was not only General Secretary of the Netherlands Section for many years, but also General Secretary of the European Federation and several World Congresses. In her we have lost a veteran of tested worth, who in every office she filled won the admiration of all concerned. Among others who have passed away recently in the United States is Mr. Thomas Pond of Baltimore, to whom Adyar is specially indebted for the organization of the Adyar Day collections in the United States year after year; another is Mr. E. W. Post, who having entered the Society in 1883, while yet H.P.B. was living at Adyar, had a record of seventy years' membership, probably unmatched in our annals. I must add to this roll Mr. D. P. Kotwall of Karachi, who joined the Society in 1888 and remained a pillar of strength to the end, and also Mr. C. V. Shah, for long a familiar figure at Adyar in charge of work in one Department or other. We bid a temporary farewell to these and other

Brethren who have passed away, knowing full well that though "Death do us seem to part" the unbroken links of affection and devotion to the common cause will keep us together in a lasting bond of unity.

Brother Raja's seven-year term of office came to its end on February 17th this year, some four months before his passing. He had announced his intention not to stand for re-election because of the increasing difficulties with his health. The election formalities were conducted by Miss Helen Zahara, then Recording Secretary, in the manner laid down in Rule 10 of the Rules and Regulations of the Society, and in due course one of the candidates was elected. As Miss Zahara's Report on the election has been published in *The Theosophist* and various Sectional magazines with full details, I need not advert to it further.

I would like to say here in a general way what seems to me to be very important, that in a Society which is meant to be a channel of the Divine Wisdom and seeks to base itself on the purest Brotherhood, the whole ideology and atmosphere of an election ought to be utterly different from what it is in the world at large. Whether it is election in a committee, a Lodge, a Section or the whole Society, the only spirit that should obtain on the part of a Theosophist candidate should be that of placing himself, if he can, at the service of his brethren without asking to be preferred to someone else, of being at their disposal to be used in the work, if they want him for any kind of work. In a democratic organization which though democratic seeks to regulate itself in a spirit of true Wisdom, office should not be a synonym for importance. Each one in our Society is supposed to be free in all matters to use his judgment freely; this will be the case only when there is no influence that seeks to overbear his psychological freedom to exercise

a judgment which he might call his own. Unless each Lodge and Section, in the way it conducts itself, expresses the quality of the Wisdom, which is impersonal, free and non-self-seeking, it is idle to imagine that we will be able to change the world, through mere preaching. In every Lodge and Centre, our aim should be to make a model organization where there is Brotherhood, a fair order, a happy restraint and self-effacement. In all ways we should advance a condition in which this world, which is spiritually so barren, may begin, here and there, to blossom as the rose.

May I here make a reference to the innumerable messages I have received on my election as President? I am grateful to all who have sent them for their affection, and I shall endeavor to deserve the confidence that has been expressed. In this connection I want to express the view that in our Society leadership, except for certain purposes having mainly to do with collective activity, should not be confined to one individual or a set of individuals; it should exist in all.

The word "leading" may imply following. But surely we do not want anyone ultimately to follow any path other than the path that is within himself. The sole loyalty that we should preach in our Society is loyalty to Truth, the Truth that is realized in oneself. He is the true leader who can be alone, unbiassed, not leaning on others, who can lead himself. In this view, which I believe is a true view, each one of us has both light and leading to give in his or her own sphere, and it would be a wonderful Society if from the thousands of its members there can be radiated this bright influence.

Soon after I took charge as President, I came up against an important question concerning particularly the Adyar estate. It was that of continuing to accommodate the institu-

tions of the Besant Centenary Trust, directed by Srimati Rukmini Devi, namely Kalākshetra (which is an Arts Academy), the Besant Theosophical High School, and the Arundale Teachers' Training Centre. The institutions have grown year by year since they were started, as for instance, the Besant School which had 70 pupils and 12 teachers in 1934 (see Dr. Arundale's Address of 1934), and now has 417 pupils and 25 teachers. They had been accommodated on the estate only temporarily, and their growth, activities and increase in public contacts made it inevitable that they should impinge more and more upon the available accommodation on the estate. Thus it came about that Brother Raja had to give notice to them in March 1948 to vacate by stages the buildings and grounds occupied by them.

This was done to some extent, and certain premises have been vacated. The institutions still occupy a fairly extensive area in Besant Gardens and Damodar Gardens, including the main buildings therein. Permission to occupy these areas expired in February last, but was extended by Brother Raja to June 1953, that being the beginning of the new educational year.

I was asked by Rukmini Devi, President, and Dr. G. Srinivasa Murthi, Treasurer, of the Besant Centenary Trust, for an extension of the period of occupancy, and they explained to me the actual situation, which is as follows: They have a site which has been acquired for permanently settling these institutions. That site comprises about 70 acres near Tiruvānmiyur village, which is about two to three miles by public road from the Society's estate, though less than a mile by a direct route, which however is not yet a proper road. But no structures have been put up on this site so far, and the money which Rukmini Devi has for building is still far from sufficient to create the necessary accommodation



to take the place of the buildings and grounds now occupied on the Society's estate. The institutions cannot be moved to any other temporary quarters because, firstly, there are no suitable quarters in the vicinity, and, secondly, it would mean an increase in costs, which they can ill afford.

While this is so—and while we have to consider the interests of these institutions—certain portions of the occupied area are actually needed by the Society for its own purposes, for instance, for the construction of a properly designed building for the Adyar Library and its research section, and the erection of family quarters for resident-workers of the Society.

In view of these needs of the Society, I indicated to Rukmini Devi that I should like to have the occupied areas in the *eastern* portion of Besant Gardens—which are particularly suited for the Adyar Library project—to be made available to the Society. I was willing to give her institutions, as regards the other areas, reasonable time and such security as may be possible, pending their removal to their own site at Tiruvānmiyur.

I felt it important to place this matter of occupation of certain portions of the Society's estate on the basis of a clear and satisfactory understanding, so that the relations between these institutions on the one hand, and the Society on the other, may be regulated on that basis. I therefore proposed :

To give to the Besant Centenary Trust for the use of its institutions a fifteen year lease of the areas in Damodar Gardens which they occupy at present, including the permanent structures, the lease to be renewable at the end of that period if both parties desire to do so, and on terms acceptable to both.

I asked the Besant Centenary Trust to vacate the eastern portion of the Besant Gardens area by June 1954,

assuring them a reasonable time as regards the western portion. If the Trust required additional land in Damodar Gardens, I was agreeable to including such additional land on lease.

The terms which I proposed are acceptable to the Besant Centenary Trust, and the General Council has, by more than the three-fourths required, voted its approval of these proposals. The formal lease is now in process of being executed. I am heartily glad that this matter of the occupation of some parts of the Society's estate, by institutions towards which the Society has reason to feel extremely sympathetic, has been so definitely and satisfactorily settled.

The year that has gone by has seen some changes in the principal offices of the Society, besides the Presidency. Both Miss Helen Zahara, who had been Recording Secretary, and Mr. Charles Shores, Treasurer, during the greater part of Brother Raja's Presidentship, decided for reasons connected with personal circumstances, to shift their activities to other centres of work, Helen Zahara to "Olcott," Wheaton, where she is now on the staff of the American Section, and Charles Shores to "The Manor" in Sydney, from where he continues to devote himself to activities which have claimed his life-long devotion. Their places at Adyar have been filled by Miss Emma Hunt as Recording Secretary, Miss Ann Kerr as Assistant Recording Secretary, and Mr. H. B. F. Moorhead as Treasurer. Mr. K. S. Rajagopalan continues as Assistant Treasurer. To those who have been here and labored in the past, I am sure you would want me, as I want, to express our thanks. The loss of one centre is the gain of another ; so in the sum all is well. I am grateful to the three new colleagues—not by any means new to the work, but only to the offices they now hold—for thus consenting to assist me.

The Vice-President, Mr. Sidney A. Cook, and Mrs. Jocelyn Cook had to leave quite unexpectedly for the United States of America because of certain citizenship requirements, and their departure leaves quite a large gap at Adyar. But as Mr. Sidney A. Cook is continuing as Vice-President at my wish, which I am sure is shared by the Society as a whole, his help and counsel in that capacity will be available from wherever he may be.

An important change which I should mention is with reference to the Adyar Library; and that change has been made with the most cordial approval of Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti, who has been for so many years Director of the Library. Brother Raja has year after year dwelt upon the importance of the work of collecting, comparing, transcribing, editing and publishing ancient works of value preserved in palm-leaf manuscripts, which has been carried on in the library ever since 1886. There is great scope for developing this activity considerably on systematic lines; and when there was brought to us by favorable circumstances the person who could undertake that task in the person of Mr. Alain Danielou, I was glad to give him charge of the Library. Mr. Danielou, before he came to Adyar, was Director of the Research Department in the College of Music and Fine Arts of the Banaras University. He has the largest collection of Sanskrit books and manuscripts on music, which is now available for consultation in the Adyar Library. He has as a colleague in his work Mrs. Radha Burnier, who is now the Assistant Director of the Library.

Mrs. D. R. Dinshaw continues to do the detailed editing of *The Theosophist*, which has now reverted to the old Lucifer design of H.P.B. on the front cover. The different Departmental Heads at Adyar, whom I need only name here, continue to carry on as before.

Miss Katherine A. Beechey, in charge of the T.S. Archives; Mr. N. R. Subramanya Iyer, Bhojanasala; Dr. E. Sundaresan, Officer-in-charge of the Dispensary, and his able dispenser, Mr. S. Krishnamurti; Mr. M. D. Subramaniam, Superintendent of the Engineering Department; Mr. K. Neelakantan, Superintendent of the Gardens, with his Assistant, Mr. V. R. Manickam; Mr. Naranji Kevat, Superintendent of Furniture and Cleaning; Miss Florence Pulsford, Leadbeater Chambers; Mr. M. V. Gopalakrishnan, Laundry; Madame P. Cazin, Department of Sanitation; Mr. K. S. Krishnamurti, Manager of the Theosophical Publishing House and of Watch and Ward, and Mr. K. Ramanathan, Assistant Manager of the Publishing House; and Mr. D. V. Syamala Rau, Vasanta Press, with his Assistant, Mr. T. G. Suryanarayanan.

I thank them all sincerely for their work in the common cause, which in the case of some extends over a long period of years (over 28 in the case of one of them).

The School of the Wisdom opened its session this year on October 23rd, with Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, from Auckland, New Zealand, as Director of Studies. It was fortunate for the School and for Adyar that he was able to come here and look after this important branch of our work. As he is coming here again for the work of the School in 1954-55, he will be placing us under further obligation. The School is still in its beginnings, but I hope that some day, when world conditions are more favorable, it will attract students from very many Sections, who will not only participate in the studies but also enrich Adyar with what they bring out of the distinctive backgrounds of their own countries as well as their special studies, and make Adyar an even more international centre than it is today.

A feature of Adyar life which I hope will develop into something really effective and beautiful is a Garden of Meditation, where all residents who are so disposed meet after the labors of the day at eventide, to relax, to meditate, to listen to carefully selected music and short readings calculated to take one's thoughts to those things that are worth thinking about. This Garden, which was opened on November 17th, Foundation Day, lies between the Banyan Tree and Leadbeater Chambers, with the Gopalji Amphitheatre and the Adyar River on one side, and with a view of the sea glistening through the trees and beyond the river. I hope that some day ere long the little building in the Garden, which we now use for the evening meeting and which stands by the Krishnaji seat referred to by Brother Raja in his last Presidential Address, will be replaced by an architectural piece which will both provide the necessary shelter and be inspiring to meet in.

We need money for this and for various other purposes, the aforesaid Adyar Library building included. The A.B.C. Fund also can well increase faster than it does at present. I personally am not inclined to make stirring appeals for money, although it is my duty to state the purposes to which members may contribute. Every donation should be a free-will gift in the truest sense of the term, untouched by any other consideration than the good of the object which it serves.

In this connection I should not omit to mention a handsome bequest by Mrs. K. E. Tibbits, who passed away during the year, to be divided equally for the work of the Adyar Library and for the Indian Section Library at Banaras.

At Adyar we have formed a Welfare Committee to look after the needs of the lower wage employees, many of whom, because of the prevailing economic distress, are definitely under-

nourished and hard-up in many ways; this, in spite of the considerably increased scales of salary and the dearness allowance which we now pay, and to which reference has been made in previous years in connection with our budgets. The Committee is at present giving each employee receiving wages below Rs. 60/- per month, a simple inexpensive meal every Friday noon, which is just the time when they have usually run out of their weekly wages. These meals have been highly appreciated by the work-people, and have been served to them regularly for some weeks past by the members of the Committee, assisted by a number of voluntary helpers. The cost of these meals has been met by donations given for the purpose by members at Adyar and in Madras, and one or two other places in India and outside India. If there are others who would like to interest themselves in this work of the good Samaritan, they are of course welcome to do so.

Among other needs, I should mention a new Fund which we have started, named the Raja Commemorative Fund, which will enable us to continue the life-long work of Brother Raja as a lecturer for Theosophy in very many Sections. There are, and will surely be in the future, tried and worthy lecturers capable of carrying on such work in their own and other Sections. Such lecturers, especially if, like Brother Raja and other leaders of the Society, they have the capacity to inspire by their life and presence as well as by their words, can be a binding force for the whole Society. It is not always possible for such workers to travel from one country to another at a distance without some assistance, and it is to provide such assistance that this Fund has been created. This Fund seems to me to be the best possible memorial to Brother Raja, as it will ensure a continuation of the work which was so close to his heart.

The number of Lodges throughout the world is now 1,319; and the total number of members over 32,220. This includes in some cases last year's figures.

In all the Sections the work of the Society, as indicated by the reports as well as in letters received by me, has been carried on steadily as usual. The Council of the European Federation had a very important session in July at Huizen, marking the Golden Jubilee of the Federation. The meetings were attended by the General Secretaries of 13 Sections in Europe. Under the ever-thoughtful care of the General Secretary of the Federation, Mr. J. E. van Dissel, the Federation is playing its part not only by holding Congresses and providing for periodical contacts at Council meetings between the representatives of all the European Sections but also by fostering co-operation between them in regional groups. There are now four such Groups: for the English-speaking, the French-speaking, the German-speaking and the Scandinavian areas respectively. Each of these is organized to hold a Summer School which members of all the Sections comprised in its area may attend; to conduct, if it so wishes, a journal with their joint resources, and develop co-operation for other purposes, such as publications. There is, for instance, a regional Publishing House in Graz for publishing German Theosophical works, and there are two journals named *Adyar* and *Clarté*, for German-speaking and French-speaking members respectively; these besides the journals published by the Federation itself and the Sectional journals or bulletins.

A new Section formed during the year, the 51st on our roll, is that of Venezuela. It has come into existence, due largely to the impetus given to the work there by Senorita Luz Maria Durand. We greet the new Section with hopes for a bright future. A

change of an organizational nature, which I might mention here, is the formation of a Northern Ireland Federation, in the place of the previous Presidential Agency. This was made possible by the new Rule 35b of the Rules of the Society. The work goes on as before under the lead of Mr. Hugh Shearman, who is now the elected Secretary instead of Presidential Agent.

I myself made a short tour of Australia, New Zealand and Indonesia, during the months of August, September and October, and visited also, outside India, Colombo, Singapore and Rangoon. In Rangoon I presided over the Burmese Section Convention. Mr. Geoffrey Hodson made an 8 months' tour in the United States, before he left that Section in September to come to the School of the Wisdom. He has lectured in 41 cities in 22 States, attracting large audiences, besides attending and helping the Annual Convention and summer sessions at Olcott. There are reports from many South American Sections—Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia—of the great help given to them by Senorita Luz Maria Durand, to whose work as a lecturer Brother Raja referred enthusiastically in his last Presidential Address. Mr. Harjivan Mehta from Bhavnagar visited all the Lodges and Centres in East Africa in the course of a three-months' tour of that extensive region, to which the report of the East African Section refers with much gratitude. Mr. Sidney Ransom has kept up his regular help to the Scandinavian Section by another visit last summer and participation in their Summer School activities.

There is a revival of interest in Ceylon where some new Lodges have been formed—thanks to the intensive work of Mr. M. Subramaniam, who went with me to Ceylon and was there for about two months. Though I have mentioned the activities of these lecturers, there are other good workers



whose names appear in the Section reports, who have labored indefatigably in their own areas and whose work is no less important than that of brethren who have travelled from one Section to another. In India there have been Camps and Workers' Conferences in different areas, corresponding to the Summer Schools in Europe and the United States. The General Secretary, Mr. Rohit Mehta, has many plans for the future, among which I might mention the interesting idea of forming an Āshrama in each Federation area, where some senior and experienced brother could from time to time take up temporary residence, gathering a number of eager, earnest members, for a kind of retreat in which they could go more deeply than is normally possible at Lodge meetings into the profounder aspects of Theosophy.

The Section Reports do not all speak in the same accents. One or two of them speak of a "downward" trend in membership, but others have had an increase of membership and think that the future is promising, and there is among the members in them a feeling of happiness in Theosophy. The phrase "new era" has been suggested here and there.

It seems to me that it does not really matter whether the numerical strength of the Society, of any Section or Lodge, goes a little up or down. It is not numbers which matter; nor popularity; nor the estimation of people who are considered important from the standpoint of the world's current interests nor the aims determined by those interests. We need surely to understand the problems of our time and the world's needs in every direction. But let us bear in mind the truth that the world is ourselves—we

are of the world worldly for the most part, even though we may have other aspirations—and what the world plans, wants, and what we may be inclined to join in as the solution of present problems, may not be what is really needed to bring about order, freedom, peace, happiness, in the world or in ourselves. We need a fundamental change, more truly a renewal of life, such as takes place when the seasons change, or when the individual life sheds its form and expresses itself in a new one. Such a renovation depends upon depth of understanding, discrimination in one's actual life, an earnestness to discover not just with the instrument of intellect, but with the totality of one's being and awareness, what is beyond the mind, beyond its fleeting shadows. The purpose of the Society may be variously stated; it belongs to many different levels. It is practical, philanthropic, creative, idealistic, spiritual. Let us, in all these ways, prepare ourselves into channels for its pure expression. The quality of each and every one of us will determine the quality of the whole. As surely as day follows night, the dawn will break in each one's heart, when he has ceased to cling to the shadows that constitute the night, the falsehoods, superstitions and glamor, whether of our religious, political, social or personal lives.

*(Rise, Sisters and Brothers)*

May Those who are the embodiments of Love immortal bless with Their continued help and guidance the Society founded to do Their will; and may we, opening ourselves to the light of Their guidance, be worthy to transmit that blessing and help to lead the world from Darkness into Light.

N. SRI RAM



## THE TREASURER'S REPORT

The statement of accounts for the fiscal year ended 30th September, 1953 compares favourably with the budget

estimate and the year has closed with a surplus of Rs. 28,054/- as summarized hereunder :

		<i>Budget</i>	<i>Actuals</i>
		Rs.	Rs.
Expenditure (including Departments)	...	4,23,975	4,71,578
Income	... ..	3,84,455	4,42,273
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Deficit	... ..	39,520	29,305
Less Donations received (after allocations to	...		
funds and accounts) ...	...		57,359
			<hr/>
Surplus to Capital Account	... ..		28,054
			<hr/>

This satisfactory result has been possible due to general donations and bequests amounting to Rs. 48,360/- and Adyar Day Collections of Rs. 26,127/-. Certain bequests were a welcome and necessary addition to reinforce the Society's working capital.

The Adyar Day Collections include a small balance carried forward from 1952 and Rs. 20,784/- contributed by the U. S. Adyar Day Committee. The President has made the following allocations from the Adyar Day Fund :

			Rs.	A.	P.
Olcott Harijan Free Schools	...	...	1,000	0	0
Adyar Library	...	...	2,000	0	0
Welfare Fund	...	...	2,000	0	0
Faithful Service Fund	...	...	10,000	0	0
President's Discretionary Fund	...	...	1,000	0	0
Besant Theosophical School	...	...	1,000	0	0
Sum made available to the T. S.	...	...	9,000	0	0
			<hr/>		
			26,000	0	0
Retained for future allocation	...	...	127	14	6
			<hr/>		
			26,127	14	6
			<hr/>		

**Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund.**  
—At the beginning of the year this fund amounted to Rs. 6,88,977/-. Contributions totalling Rs. 64,451/-

were received during the year bringing the total to Rs. 7,57,428/-. Gratitude is expressed to the many who have given donations towards this fund, but



members are reminded that the total has been set at Rs. 20,00,000 (20 lakhs, U. S. \$421040/-, £150520/-), the attainment of which target at the present rate will take at least twenty years. Continued support is therefore essential through donations and bequests by will.

**Faithful Service Fund.**—At the beginning of the year there was a balance of Rs. 22,712/- in this fund, from which Rs. 10,548/- has been disbursed. An allocation of Rs. 10,000/- has been made from the Adyar Day Fund and this, together with other contributions received during the year, leaves a credit of Rs. 23,350/-.

**Investments.**—During the year Rs. 20,000/- was invested in 4% Madras Loan 1964. A further Rs. 24,000/- in National Saving Certificates, an anonymous donation from an Indian member, has been received for the Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund. Thus the total of investments was increased by Rs. 44,000/-.

**Fees and Dues** at Rs. 35,780/- were received during the year and this amount exceeded the estimate by Rs. 12,780/- The increase is accounted for by clearance of certain remittances outstanding from previous years.

**Repairs and Renewals.**—A sum of Rs. 36,593/- was expended for repairs and maintenance of estate buildings, drainage and roads. After appropriating Rs. 6,593/- from War-deferred Maintenance Reserve, the balance of Rs. 30,000/- has been charged to this head.

**Taxation.**—The taxes paid to the Corporation of Madras during the year amounted to Rs. 12,997/- and this together with other charges paid, totalled Rs. 13,734/-.

**Establishment : Salaries and Wages and food to employees.**—The fortnightly distribution of Thoor Dhall to supply

ment the diet of the lower salaried employees was continued throughout the year and resulted in an increased expenditure of Rs. 5,541/-.

**Appropriations.**—The normal annual grant of Rs. 5,000/- has been made to the Adyar Library. The publications of the Adyar Library being essentially of scholarly interest find a very limited sale. Efforts are being made to seek a wider range of publicity and increased sale of publications. It is recognized that by issue of such rare works a definite contribution is made to world scholarship.

**Bhojanasala.**—The department's account has closed with a small deficit of Rs. 160/13/- as against an anticipated loss of Rs. 650/-.

**Leadbeater Chambers.**—There were exceptionally few residents during the year and the necessity to maintain a skeleton staff together with increased cost of foodstuffs resulted in a deficit of Rs. 2,774/- This deficit although slightly in excess of that budgetted for is lower than for several years past.

**Laundry.**—This department shows a small deficit of Rs. 353/-.

**Engineering Department.**—The department has been able to show a surplus of Rs. 770/- after reserving a small amount towards the proposed replacement of the existing water tank. This satisfactory result follows on the previous year's decision to increase overhead charges from 12½ to 25%, the increase being a means of offsetting the loss consequent on the reduction of electric current rates to departments.

**Garden Department.**—A deficit of Rs. 7,739/- has been incurred as against a budgetted loss of Rs. 4,000/-. This increase is chiefly accounted for by improvement to the ornamental gardens. The deficit of Rs. 7,739/- takes no account of the income from the

casuarina plantations at Rs. 6,796/- which is shown in the general income and is not credited to the department.

*Vasanta Press.*—The year closed with a surplus of Rs. 969/- after mak-

ing provisions for Pensions and Gratuities Fund etc.

*Watch and Ward and Sanitation.*—The expense of these two departments has remained within budget estimates.

H. B. F. MOORHEAD.

*Hony. Treasurer.*

## THE T. S. INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT

Budget Allot- ment	EXPENSE										Rs.	A.	P.
Rs.													
31,000	To Establishment—Salaries and Wages (Food Distribution Rs. 5,541-9-9) ...										35,221	11	5
30,000	,, Repairs and Renewals ... .. 36,593 2 0												
	Less appropriation from War-deferred Maintenance Reserve 6,593 2 0												
											30,000	0	0
5,000	,, Light and Water ... ..										4,524	11	
7,000	,, Miscellaneous ... ..										6,938	15	2
3,500	,, Postages, Telegrams and Telephone ... ..										4,824	6	3
4,500	,, Printing and Stationery ... ..										4,092	0	0
13,500	,, Taxes ... ..										13,734	6	4
800	,, Publications to General Secretaries ... ..										691	8	0
500	,, Museum and Archives ... ..										225	9	9
	,, Departmental Results :												
		Expense		Income		Net							
		Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.						
4,000	Garden ...	39,571	9 9	31,832	7 6	— 7,739	2 3						
14,450	Watch and Ward ...	12,720	9 9			— 12,720	9 9						
3,500	Sanitation ...	4,089	1 9	1,404	4 6	— 2,684	13 3						
3,500	Dispensary ...	4,058	3 6	808	13 6	— 3,249	6 0						
1,250	Leadbeater Cham- bers ...	12,926	8 8	10,151	12 3	— 2,774	12 5						
	Laundry ...	6,209	2 9	5,855	8 0	— 353	10 9						
650	Bhojanasala ...	9,677	3 0	9,516	6 0	— 160	13 0						
	Engineering Depart- ment ...	1,14,128	3 3	1,14,899	3 0	+ 770	15 9						
	Vasanta Press ...	1,38,973	15 5	1,39,943	6 0	+ 969	6 7						
		3,42,354	9 10	3,14,411	12 9	— 27,942	13 1	27,942	13	1			
								1,28,196	1	0			
	,, Appropriations :												
5,000	To Adyar Library ...					5,000	0 0						
6,500	,, The School of the Wisdom ...					6,500	0 0						
								11,500	0	0			
17,500	,, Depreciation :												
	On Immovable Property @ 2% ...					12,471	0 0						
	,, Movable Property ...					4,695	4 0						
	,, " Gulistan " @ 2% ...					305	6 9						
								17,471	10	9			
	,, Excess of Income over Expense carried to Capital a/c ... ..										28,053	13	8
								1,85,221	9	5			

Examined and found correct.

**Chartered Accountants.**

## BALANCE SHEET OF THE THEOSOPHICAL

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES											
Capital			Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance at Oct. 1, 1952	...	...	...	...	...	9,26,364	2	5			
Less Adyar Library (see below)	...	...	...	...	...	1,65,110	8	3			
						7,61,253	10	2			
Add Excess of Income over Expense	...	...	...	...	...	28,053	13	8			
						7,89,307	7	10			
Adyar Library (see separate Account)	...	...	...	...	...	1,66,632	10	5	9,55,940	2	3
Other Departments :											
Bhojanasala	...	...	2,681	11	6						
Engineering Department	...	...	85,404	10	6						
Garden Department...	...	...	42,111	6	9						
Laundry	...	...	1,686	4	0						
Leadbeater Chambers	...	...	2,644	14	0						
Vasanta Press	...	...	38,667	14	8						
			1,73,196	13	5						
Funds (see notes below)											
Of the Society Interest Bearing :											
Adyar Library Endowment Fund (a)	...	...	63,882	9	6						
Adyar Library Building Fund (b)	...	...	1,25,420	15	9						
Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund (c)	...	...	7,57,428	14	8						
Miscellaneous Funds (a)	...	...	62,872	5	8						
do. do. (d)	...	...	13,533	6	0						
			10,23,138	3	7						
Of the Society Non-Interest Bearing :											
President's Travelling Fund	...	...	19,735	15	11						
Pensions & Gratuities Fund	...	...	11,503	6	5	10,54,377	9	11			
Of Others Interest Bearing :											
Sri Panda Baijnath Propaganda Endowment Fund	...	...	33,851	14	5						
Miscellaneous	...	...	41,297	11	6						
Non-Interest Bearing	...	...	41,324	11	2	1,16,474	5	1	11,70,851	15	0
Sundry Deposits	...	...	...	...	...				68,914	1	10
Sundry Creditors	...	...	...	...	...				9,113	7	5
Adyar Library :											
Miscellaneous Funds	...	...	...	...	...	20,458	6	7			
Sundry Creditors	...	...	...	...	...	2,099	0	3			
Gratuities Reserve	...	...	...	...	...	6,248	3	1	28,805	9	11
Reserves :											
War-deferred Maintenance Reserve	...	...	...	...	...	18,423	9	3			
Electrical Line	...	...	...	...	...	6,000	0	0			
Meter and Water Line Renewal	...	...	...	...	...	4,000	0	0			
Supplemental Welfare	...	...	...	...	...	1,757	4	6			
Vasanta Press Contingencies Reserve	...	...	...	...	...	3,000	0	0			
Type and Machinery	...	...	...	...	...	24,500	0	0			
Adyar Day Unallocated	...	...	...	...	...	127	14	6			
Water Tank	...	...	...	...	...	2,000	0	0			
Special Purposes Fund	...	...	...	...	...	15,035	11	6	74,844	7	9
Note.—(a) Capital and Interest available for specific purposes.											
(b) Interest available for general purposes.											
(c) Interest only available for general purposes.											
(d) Interest only available for specific purposes.											
									23,08,469	12	2



SOCIETY, ADYAR, AS ON 30TH SEPTEMBER 1953

PROPERTY AND ASSETS							
Immovable Property :				Rs.	A.	P.	
Balance at Oct. 1, 1952	...	...	...				
Lands at Adyar	...	...	...	1,93,857	13	0	
Buildings	...	...	...	6,06,100	14	9	
Add Improvements during the year	...	...	...				
				7,99,958	11	9	
				17,449	10	0	
				8,17,408	5	9	
Less Depreciation Reserve	...	...	...	2,43,023	8	6	
							5,74,384 13 3
Land in Sindh	...	...	...				10,000 0 0
"Gulistan", Kotagiri :							
Balance at Oct. 1, 1952	...	...	...	15,260	6	9	
Less Depreciation Reserve	...	...	...	913	4	6	
							14,347 2 3
Movable Properties, Adyar :							
Balance at Oct. 1, 1952	...	...	...	57,674	15	8	
Add Additions during the year	...	...	...	1,671	8	0	
				59,346	7	8	
Less Sales	...	...	...	38	0	0	
				59,308	7	8	
Less Depreciation Reserve	...	...	...	32,787	9	8	
							26,520 14 0
Investments at Cost :							
Government of India Loan 2½% to 4½% F. V. 755700	...	...	...	7,48,240	1	3	
Madras State Govt. Loan and debentures 2½% to 4%	...	...	...				
F. V. 136400	...	...	...	1,36,572	8	0	
United Kingdom Loan	...	...	...	1,77,046	4	1	
Surrender Value of Life Policy	...	...	...	16,200	0	0	
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	8,943	4	3	
							10,87,002 1 7
Interest accrued on Investments	...	...	...				7,370 11 5
Fees and Dues Outstanding	...	...	...				1,970 14 8
Sundry Debtors	...	...	...	38,978	13	5	
Less Rentals billed in Advance	...	...	...	2,369	5	0	
							36,609 8 5
Departmental Assets :							
Electrical Installation, less Depreciation	...	...	...	36,948	0	0	
Tools, Implements, Utensils and Equipment	...	...	...	16,916	7	0	
Printing Machinery	...	...	...	15,501	0	0	
Supplies on hand	...	...	...	75,226	6	6	
Accounts Recoverable and Advances	...	...	...	32,267	2	2	
Cash on hand	...	...	...	895	0	0	
Advance Rentals	...	...	...	191	0	0	
Standing Crops	...	...	...	39,196	0	3	
Prepaid Fire Insurance Premium	...	...	...	1,336	6	9	
Works in Progress	...	...	...	16,179	2	0	
Adyar Library :							
				2,34,656	8	8	
Books and Manuscripts	...	...	...	1,47,315	11	10	
Furniture, less Depreciation	...	...	...	12,072	10	6	
Stock of Publications	...	...	...	33,100	14	0	
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	529	4	0	
				1,93,018	8	4	
							4,27,675 1 0
Cash :							
Fixed Deposit	...	...	...	2,061	3	9	
In Madras Banks on Current Account	...	...	...	1,01,744	12	9	
In London Bank do.	...	...	...	7,098	15	4	
On hand	...	...	...	11,683	9	9	
							1,22,588 9 7
							23,08,469 12 2

Examined and found correct,  
V. SOUNDARARAJAN & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants,

## FEES AND DUES RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1953

						Rs.	A.	P.
The Theosophical Society in	U. S. A.	\$1957.50	1953	...		9,205	0	9
"	England	£245-1-4	1953	...		3,246	11	11
"	India		1951-52	...		1,303	8	0
"	Australia	A£55-17-7	1952	...		591	4	8
"	New Zealand		1952	...		658	2	3
"	Norway	£7-10-5	1952	...		99	9	3
"	Wales	£11-14-4	1952	...		155	10	9
"	Colombia		1951-52	...		324	14	0
"	Canada		1953	...		535	13	0
"	Scotland	£13-0-0	1952	...		172	11	8
"	Mexico	\$60.00	1952	...		281	0	0
"	Sweden			...		394	15	0
"	N. Ireland	£3-2-7		...		41	5	7
"	Cuba	\$69.72	1952-53	...		328	13	6
"	Finland		1952-53	...		326	0	0
"	Holland			...		2,172	11	0
"	France		1945-52	...		7,530	4	0
"	Costa Rica	\$21.00	1953	...		97	2	0
"	Greece	£15-15-0		...		208	12	7
"	Portugal	£13-12-0	1951-52	...		180	15	0
"	Ireland	£2-10-6		...		33	5	6
"	Chile	\$108.55		...		509	14	0
"	Br. E. Arica			...		139	8	0
"	Puerto Rico	£4-4-3		...		55	13	0
"	Belgium	£23-18-11		...		317	4	6
"	Yugoslavia	\$129.50		...		612	3	0
"	Austria			...		389	10	7
"	Burma			...		100	0	0
"	Switzerland			...		1,010	8	6
Canadian Federation T.S.		£20-8-4	1952-53	...		270	3	3
Non-Sectionalized Lodges, etc.				...		4,486	7	7
Total ...						35,780	2	10

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT'S TRAVELLING FUND

RECEIVED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1953

						Rs.	A.	P.
Two Members of Portugal	...	...	...	...		474	0	0
The T.S. in England £50-0-0	...	...	...	...		660	14	10
The T.S. in Scotland £7-3-3	...	...	...	...		94	13	3
The T.S. in New Zealand £100-0-0	...	...	...	...		1,328	10	6
Mr. S. H. Vaswani, Adyar	...	...	...	...		1	0	0
						2,559	6	7



## FAITHFUL SERVICE FUND

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-1953

DISBURSEMENTS				RECEIPTS			
	Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.	A.	P.
To Miss E. M. Amery @ Rs. 200/- p.m. ...	2,400	0	0	By Opening Balance ...	22,712	15	9
„ Miss H. S. Kemp @ Rs. 60/- p.m. ...	720	0	0	„ Donations, etc. ...	628	1	11
„ Miss G. Watkin @ Rs. 218/- p.m. ...	2,616	0	0	„ Rent ...	240	0	0
„ Mr. C. V. Shah @ Rs. 85/- p.m. ...	1,020	0	0	„ Adyar Day Allocation ...	10,000	0	0
„ Miss Helen Veale @ Rs. 100/- p.m. ...	1,200	0	0	„ Interest ...	317	12	3
„ Madame P. Cazin @ Rs. 80/- p.m. ...	960	0	0				
„ Mr. C. S. Trilokekar @ Rs. 50/- p.m. ...	600	0	0				
„ Mr. Manjeri S. Rama Iyer @ Rs. 20/- p.m. ...	240	0	0				
„ Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Ransom ...	115	15	3				
„ Contribution to the Clara Codd Pension Fund ...	659	7	0				
„ Money Order and Bank Commissions ...	17	3	0				
„ Balance carried over ...	23,350	4	8				
	33,898	13	11		33,898	13	11

## THE T.S. HEADQUARTERS, ADYAR, BUDGET FOR 1953-54

EXPENSE	Budget for 1952-'53	Actuals for 1952-'53	Budget for 1953-'54	INCOME	Budget for 1952-'53	Actuals for 1952-'53	Budget for 1953-'54
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment—Salaries and				Rent	54,000	53,904	54,000
Wages and free food ...	31,000	35,222	32,000	Fees and Dues	23,000	35,780	28,600
Repairs and Renewals				Conservancy Charges	1,300	1,404	1,300
(Excess to War-deferred				Garden Income	37,000	31,832	35,050
Maintenance Reserve) ...	30,000	30,000	30,000	Casuarina	10,000	6,797	10,000
Garden Expenses ...	41,000	39,572	42,550	Administration Charges	7,130	7,130	7,130
Miscellaneous ...	7,000	6,939	7,000	Interest (Gross)	32,000	32,422	34,000
Light and Water	5,000	4,525	5,000				
Watch and Ward	14,450	12,720	13,250	Special Departments:			
Postages, Telegrams and				Engineering Depart-			
Telephone ...	3,500	4,824	4,000	ment	93,325	1,14,899	94,750
Printing and Stationery ...	4,500	4,092	4,500	Vasanta Press	1,20,000	1,39,943	1,23,000
Publications to General				Laundry	6,700	5,856	6,000
Secretaries ...	800	692	800	Donations to cover			
Sanitation Expenses ...	4,800	4,089	4,800	deficit	39,520	74,359	39,970
Taxes Account ...	13,500	13,734	14,000				
Interest on Funds and							
Accounts ...	10,000	8,171	8,000				
Convention ...	3,500		2,000				
Contributions:							
Adyar Library ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
Dispensary ...	3,500	3,249	3,500				
President's Travelling							
Fund ...			6,600				
Museum and Archives ...	500	226	500				
The School of the Wisdom..	6,500	6,500	5,000				
Donations to various Funds							
and Accounts ...		17,000					
Bhojanasala—deficit ...	650	161	650				
Leadbeater Chambers—							
deficit ...	1,250	2,775	2,500				
Depreciation ...	17,500	17,471	17,500				
Special Departments:							
Engineering Department...	93,325	1,14,128	94,750				
Vasanta Press ...	1,20,000	1,38,973	1,23,000				
Laundry ...	6,700	6,209	6,900				
Surplus ...		28,054					
	4,23,975	5,04,326	4,33,800		4,23,975	5,04,326	4,33,800

For The Theosophical Society,  
H. B. F. MOORHEAD,  
Hony. Treasurer.

PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-1953

[illegible]

Examined and found correct,  
V. SOUNDARARAJAN & CO.,  
*Chartered Accountants.*

For The Theosophical Society,  
H. B. F. MOORHEAD,  
*Hon'y. Treasurer.*

ADYAR

24th December, 1953.

33,018 2 7

## INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT OF THE

Budget Rs.		EXPENSE				Rs.	A.	P.
19,500	To Salaries and Wages	...	...	...	...	18,492	15	6
500	„ Copying and Comparing Charges	...	...	...	...	31	1	9
900	„ Repairs, Lighting and Conservancy	...	...	...	...	1,244	11	6
500	„ Postages	...	...	...	...	515	12	9
500	„ Printing and Stationery	...	...	...	...	538	10	3
300	„ Fire Insurance	...	...	...	...	276	1	6
100	„ Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	221	11	4
					...	21,321	0	7
6,000	„ Subsidy to Publications		Rs.	A.	P.			
	Account	...	...	...	...	8,519	9	11
1,500	„ Reserve for Gratuities	...	1,500	0	0			
400	„ Reserve for Depreciation	...	373	0	9			
			1,873	0	9			
	„ <i>Capital Expenditure :</i>							
500	Books and Manuscripts	...	453	3	3			
	„ <i>Allocations :</i>							
	Donation Box	...	849	7	1			
						3,175	11	1

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33,016 5 7

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## ADYAR LIBRARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-53

	INCOME	Budget		
		Rs.	A. P.	Rs.
By T.S. Contribution ...	...	5,000	0 0	5,000
„ Adyar Day Allocation ...	...	2,000	0 0	2,000
„ Miscellaneous Receipts and Donations ...	...	381	3 11	1,000
„ Donation Box ...	...	849	7 1	1,000
„ Interest on Endowments ...	...	5,151	5 6	5,200
„ Copying Charges ...	...	85	6 0	
		13,467	6 6	
„ Deduction from Endowment Fund ...	...	19,548	15 1	17,500

33,016 5 7

## BALANCE SHEET OF THE

LIABILITIES AND FUNDS				Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
<i>Endowment Fund :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...			78,509	2	4			
Add Amount received during the year	...			4,922	6	3			
				<hr/>					
				83,431	8	7			
Less Excess of Expense over Income for the year	...	...	...	19,548	15	1			
				<hr/>			63,882	9	6
<i>Building Fund :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...						1,25,420	15	9
<i>Capital Fund :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...			1,65,110	8	3			
Add Purchases during the year	...			453	3	3			
				<hr/>					
				1,65,563	11	6			
Add Adjustment of valuation	...			1,068	14	11			
				<hr/>			1,66,632	10	5
<i>Publications Fund :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...			17,314	11	7			
Add Donations received during the year	...			500	0	0			
				<hr/>			17,814	11	7
<i>Gratuities Reserve :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...			7,147	7	4			
Less Payments during the year	...			2,399	4	3			
				<hr/>					
				4,748	3	1			
Add Additions during the year	...			1,500	0	0			
				<hr/>			6,248	3	1
<i>Book Deposit :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...			881	0	0			
Add Receipts during the year	...			110	0	0			
				<hr/>					
				991	0	0			
Less Refunds	...	...	...	40	0	0			
				<hr/>			951	0	0
Reserve for Purchase of books	...						1,000	0	0
<i>Donation Box :</i>									
As per last Balance Sheet	...			1,272	14	11			
Add Receipts during the year	...			849	7	1			
				<hr/>					
				2,122	6	0			
Less Expenses	...	...	...	478	11	0			
				<hr/>			1,643	11	0
Sundry Creditors	...	...	...	...			1,148	0	3
							<hr/>		
							3,84,741	13	7

For The Theosophical Society,  
H. B. F. MOORHEAD,  
Hony. Treasurer.

ADYAR  
24th December 1953



ADYAR LIBRARY AS ON 30-9-53

ASSETS		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
<i>Manuscripts and Books :</i>							
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	1,46,862	8	7			
Add Purchases during the year	...	453	3	3			
					1,47,315	11	10
<i>Furniture :</i>							
Original Value as per last Balance Sheet.		14,927	0	9			
Less Depreciation to date	...	2,854	6	3			
					12,072	10	6
Stock of Publications on hand	...	...	...	...	33,100	14	0
Prepaid Fire Insurance Premium	...	...	...	...	139	11	0
Sundry Debtors	...	...	...	...	374	9	0
Cash on hand	...	...	...	...	15	0	0
Cash with the T.S.	...	...	...	...	1,91,723	5	3

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3,84,741 13 7

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Examined and found correct.

V, SOUNDARARAJAN &amp; Co.,

Chartered Accountants.





REPORTS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIES  
OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES, OF  
PRESIDENTIAL AGENTS AND OF  
FEDERATION SECRETARIES.

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These reports in some instances have been translated  
into English, edited or condensed in the office of the  
Recording Secretary.

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## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Foremost among the occurrences this year was the election of the International President of the Society. Mr. N. Sri Ram was elected and we joined wholeheartedly in supporting him and his administration.

Mr. Jinarājādāsa, who was to have honored our summer sessions with his presence, passed away at Olcott. The fact that this Section and its Headquarters became the place of his departure is in itself an honor and a blessing to the Section, and the Convention program included periods of remembrance of him with appropriate activities.

During the year another of our foremost elder workers who for eleven years was our National President, Mr. L. W. Rogers, departed from our midst. To many of us there could be no more fitting memorial to Mr. L. W. Rogers than that of continuing the work which he thought most valuable, namely, the distribution of books through The Theosophical Book Gift Institute. The *Louis W. Rogers Memorial Fund* carries on this work.

**Membership.**—The membership report is very encouraging. For the first time in several years the total has advanced beyond 4,000 to 4,075. The number of new members, 395, is an increase over last year and the number of members who became inactive, 242, is smaller than in the past eight years. The number of Lodges at present is 149.

It has been pointed out that the total figure does not indicate the impact of the Society's activities in this country. Although only 4,000 or more

active members are listed, to understand their effectiveness it must be remembered that there are approximately 150 active Lodges in cities from coast to coast that are continually promulgating Theosophical ideas and distributing literature. The voluntary union of these Lodges, each under its own government, each inspired by Theosophical ideals, each a training ground for co-operative leadership, is basic to the Section's strength. It is in the Lodges usually that members make the effort to search for and to serve truth together. Therefore the Lodges are the natural training places for Theosophical leaders and workers both for the present and for the future. Achievement of the Society's aims depends mainly upon the continuance of Lodges united through common activities and upon the development of new Lodges. The founding of new Lodges should continue to be a factor in the national program in addition to encouraging and strengthening the centers already functioning.

**Spotlight.**—Convinced that plans for Lodge building must be made, this administration has had as its first point of program since 1946 the Spotlight Plan—a national technique to found new Lodges. None of the Society's annual budget for field work was ever directed into the Spotlight activity. Its entire support has been by donations. In the seven years of its existence, thirty-two Lodges have been chartered out of forty-four attempts. As a result of this seven year program 605 new members have joined the Society.

*National Lecture Activity.*—The lecture activity during the season featured two outstanding visitors. First, Srimati Rukmini Devi, whose circle tour took her from Pumpkin Hollow to the Northwest and California, with a stop in Denver en route to the South, concluding her itinerary in the eastern cities. In the spring Mr. Geoffrey Hodson returned to the United States after an absence of twenty years. His contacts with the public and the members have met with enthusiastic and appreciative response. Mr. Hodson's visits have included Lodges in Northern and Southern California, Texas, Gulf Coast, Florida, Ohio and Michigan Federations, as well as the Chicago area for the Illinois-Wisconsin Federation and the Lodges in Denver, Atlanta, Kansas City and St. Louis. Mr. Hodson returned to Olcott to be our honored guest at the summer sessions, and then concluded his tour of this Section visiting Lodges in the Northeast, Northwest, Vancouver and Victoria, B. C. After two years of travelling, lecturing and attending the School of the Wisdom at Adyar, Mr. and Mrs. E. Norman Pearson returned to this Section in January and since then have been on a lecturing tour.

The National President and Mrs. Perkins visited Lodges in the Northeast in the autumn, attending the Western New York Federation Convention at Syracuse in October. This was followed by a week-long attendance at the Non-Governmental World Organization Conference at the United Nations Center in New York City. Lodges in the South were then visited, with attendance at the opening meeting in Covington, Louisiana, of the newly organized Gulf Coast Federation. Other tours into the Midwest and to Florida Federation followed. Mr. Seymour Ballard travelled to Lodges in the Northwest, including a trip to Vancouver. During the winter he visited

the Texas Federation and the Gulf Coast and Florida Federations, and later the Lodges in the midwest, finally completing his work in the Illinois-Wisconsin Federation. Thus our lecturers have reached all Lodges of the Section this year.

*Department of Education.*—For some years it has been apparent that there existed a need for a department that could *develop* as well as circulate material of educational value to members and the public. To do so demands the direction of research studies along authentic lines and the organizing and publicising of useable material. With the advances made in the integrating of Theosophy and modern thought in various Sections of the Theosophical Society, and in this Section by Mr. Fritz Kunz and the group of workers co-operating with him, an approach is indicated for our national planning to include these productive activities in the development of a Department of Education. The actual creation of a Department of Education at Headquarters occurred last year at the Convention. An Advisory Committee has been formed and its four objectives decided upon: To help Lodges to develop better programs; to prepare interested members to assist in research; to prepare them to teach; and finally to present the results of research to the members. This task of research undoubtedly will be a major contribution of the Theosophical Society to the advance of knowledge in this century.

*Finance.*—There has been a surplus over expenses. Substantial donations and bequests have been received.

*National Headquarters.*—Several items of maintenance have been undertaken during the year.

*The Theosophical Press.*—The Theosophical Press reports that gross sales amounting to \$38,654 exceed all records for the past ten years. The sales last year were \$31,351 and the



year before \$28,517. Mr. Geoffrey Hodson's lecture tour undoubtedly has had an influence on sales and there has been more activity among the Lodges in the sale of books. A total of over 6,000 packages of books were mailed from the Shipping Department. Publicity leaflets totalled 32,591 as compared with 25,372 last year. One of the activities of the Press is taking subscriptions for *The Theosophist* and these increased this year to 487. However, this represents only about 12 per cent of the membership in this country and we should find ways in which to increase the circulation in this Section of the leading Journal of the Society.

*Discovery*.—The largest number of Lodges since publication began subscribed to the leaflet *Discovery* last year.

*Department of Information*.—The activities include the handling of correspondence courses with new national members, the distribution of publicity leaflets, loaning of books, the distribution of *Discovery* and *To Those Who Mourn* booklets. Fifty-two new members have joined the Society this year through this Department.

*National Library*.—The reorganization of the National Library now has continued for over a year and the work as planned will be completed by next January. A direction sheet is now available to library users showing in graphic form the location of all books in the Library. This year 3,298 volumes have been circulated to 329 borrowers. The total number of volumes in the Library is approximately 11,000.

*Barthe Statue*.—In 1937 Dr. Arundale outlined a plan to collect at Adyar a piece of art from each of the National Sections. Each work of art was to be representative of the spirit of art in that nation, and the spirit of the nation itself presented symbolically. A Committee was formed in 1937 by Mr. Sidney A. Cook, the then National President, to secure such a work of art

from this Section. Nothing suitable was found and Mr. James S. Perkins, Chairman of the Committee, created a drawing for a statue to be rendered in bronze. In 1938 Dr. Arundale approved this original conception, which was later executed by Mr. Richmond Barthe of New York City, a famous negro sculptor. Because the statue was completed during World War II it could not be shipped to Adyar and it has been in the National Library of this Section ever since. It will now be sent to Adyar.

*United Nations Activity*.—The Fifth Conference of Non-Governmental World Organizations was held in October at the United Nations Center, and our Section was called upon for members to represent the Theosophical Society at these Sessions in New York City. The five-day sessions were attended by Mr. and Mrs. James S. Perkins and Mrs. Dora Kunz.

*Olcott Foundation*.—Because there has been less interest in this activity for several years, in spite of organized effort to promote it, it was decided that all divisions with the exception of the Olcott Lecture Division be discontinued for the current year. The number of entries submitted to this division ran considerably higher than in the past several years. Mrs. Ruby Page Euwer of Portland, Oregon, received the award for her lecture entitled "Brothers of the Bridge".

*Radio*.—Mrs. Cecil R. Boman and the group in Ojai and Ventura, California, who have been broadcasting programs of Theosophy for several years in Santa Barbara, have now incorporated their activity under the name of the Foundation for Radio Theosophy. Continuous weekly broadcasts have provided a number of scripts and tapes which are made available to Lodges that will arrange with local radio stations for their use. Eight Lodges are at present using this service, presenting 264 programs this year.

Regular broadcasts have continued in New Orleans, Louisiana, and Lead-beater Branch of Houston, Texas, recently instituted a radio series there.

*Theosophical Book Association for the Blind.*—With modernization of their equipment to facilitate production, made possible through funds from the Mason bequest, Mrs. Roy Snyder, President of The Theosophical Book Association for the Blind, reports that the year 1952 has been one of great satisfaction. The free lending Library during the year circulated 609 books and a new library catalogue was printed in ink and in Braille. A special publication of *The Wonder Child* was sent to the 60 blind members of the Society at Christmas. A new project begun this year is the recording of Theosophical books on a Sound-Scriber machine. Twenty books have already been prepared on plastic disc records and loaned to members.

*The Theosophical Book Gift Institute.*—During this year the libraries contacted have exceeded the number in any other year since the organization of The Theosophical Book Gift Institute. Correspondingly, the number of books donated has increased. A total of 4,303 books were donated to 705 libraries. Our appreciation goes to this faithful group, to those who contribute financially, and to Mr. L. W. Rogers whose enthusiasm has inspired this work through the years.

*Mothers' Research Group.*—Although this Group has had to concentrate on fewer projects this year because of rising costs, an active and successful year is reported. The main publication, *America, Birthplace of a New Race*, was one of Mr. Hodson's broadcasts.

*The Theosophical Order of Service.*—The Chief Brother of the Theosophical Order of Service, Mrs. Diana Winslow, reports that six departments were active this year. Contributions from Lodges and individuals made it possible for the Social Service Department to

assist with Korean Relief, the relief of German refugees and the children of Greece, and to participate in a new venture, "Seeds for Democracy," by supplying suitable seeds for planting in the Philippines. The Animal Welfare Department extended its wide field of activity. The World Peace Department has done an inspiring amount of work. The Arts and Crafts Department has had a productive year. The Healing Department reports the addition of new groups during the year. Two new divisions were added to the T. O. S. this year—the Division of Music under the Arts and Crafts Department and To Those Who Mourn Division under Social Service.

*Young Theosophists.*—Mrs. Josephine Sode, Youth Secretary, reports the continuance of the publication *Youth and Brotherhood* under the editorship of Mr. Harry T. McAllister, Jr. The second annual "Pumpkin Holiday" was held in August at Pumpkin Hollow Farm. The Chicago group held a study class and served the Olcott Sunday tea in January, and the Los Angeles Young Theosophists held social and study meetings.

*Ohlendorf Bequest.*—A prospective large bequest has been made to the National Society in the Will of Dr. W. C. Ohlendorf—apparently as reported in the public press, \$225,000. If this bequest comes to us, it should be used as a signal to proceed with securing architectural plans for an auditorium. This appears to be the *first aspect* of the use of these funds. The *second aspect* has to do with our field work and educational developments both among the Lodges and here at the National Headquarters. The *third aspect* is to consider what is our national duty to the mother center at Adyar. No good fortune is ours that is not also Adyar's good fortune.

As we look forward to the beginning of the fourth quarter of this century,

we can expect that the Adept Brotherhood will continue with Their cyclic effort to enlighten modern civilization with the Ancient Wisdom. This is the vision behind the founding of the Theosophical Society. And if we will keep faith with that vision, not only of serving the world through the Theosophical Society, but of creating with courage and energy a yet greater

and more powerful receptacle for the additional light to come, we shall have wrought greatly in the service of humanity, we shall have kept faith with Them. The Theosophists of this period will have played their part splendidly in making it possible.

JAMES S. PERKINS,  
*General Secretary.*

## ENGLAND

The membership of the English Section has for several years been almost stationary, with a slight downward trend. At present it stands at 3,200. During the year 3 Lodges have been formed and 1 dissolved. Two of the new Lodges are in the Midland Federation, which will greatly strengthen the work in that area. The total number of Lodges is 117.

The year has been notable for many outstanding events, the full significance of some of which has yet to be realized.

In October nearly 60 of our members attended the Congress of the European Federation held in the beautiful town of Montecatini, near Florence. Most of these members travelled in a party organized from National Headquarters, and all were privileged to take part in a very fine gathering. Both the late President, Mr. C. Jinarājadāsa, who presided, and Mr. Sri Ram, were present.

During the winter and spring months most of the Lodges and Federations carried on quietly and persistently with their members' meetings, public lectures and conferences. 44 lecture tours and 9 weekends were arranged by the national Publicity Department, in addition to those organized locally by Federations and Lodges, but there is still a dearth of lecturers for touring.

At Easter, student weekends were held in four of the seven Federations. The Southern Federation met at Oxford with Mr. and Mrs. Gardner and Miss C. G. Trew as the chief lecturers. The Northern Federation held their study weekend at Scarborough, with Mr. and Mrs. Slater as speakers. At Camberley the usual Easter camp was held, at which Dr. and Mrs. Bendit were present; and the Midland Federation study weekend was at Malvern, the speakers including Mr. E. Gall, the General Secretary for Scotland.

At Whitsuntide the Annual Convention was a specially happy and vital gathering. We were fortunate—we did not at the time realize how fortunate—to have Mr. Jinarājadāsa as our guest-of-honour. This was his last big public engagement. Brother Raja was very frail, indeed he jokingly said that by our next Convention he would probably be not the "guest-of-honour" but the "ghost-of-honour", which proved, alas, only too true a prophecy. London was en fete for the approaching Coronation and the Besant Hall was full to capacity. Greetings were received from the President and, either personally or by post, from many parts of the world. The annual Blavatsky Lecture was given by Mrs. Phoebe Bendit entitled *The Sacred Flame: A Study in Human and Devic Consciousness*. This and the many other

lectures maintained the usual high standard of excellence which we have come to expect. Members also enjoyed a delightful pianoforte recital by Mr. Eric Hope, the well known concert pianist.

A week after Convention the whole country was swept by a wave of the most intense loyalty and devotion called out by the Coronation of the young Queen Elizabeth II. All members who shared in it, either by seeing the processions, or by radio, television, or cinema film, must surely have thrilled with the knowledge of the over-shadowing influence of the Occult Hierarchy on this great occasion. The country is animated by a spirit of high hope and dedication as we enter on this new Elizabethan era—a spirit which augurs well for the future.

The Tekels Park Estate at Camberley, including the permanent camp, was well used during the summer. In May the Theosophical Research Centre held a study and discussion weekend, the subject being "Some Theosophical Fundamentals". The camp was open in May and June to accommodate visitors to the Coronation and to Convention. Other meetings were an August bank-holiday camp, a Round Table Camp, an International Camp and a Young People's Camp. Helped by generous contributions from the Section, the equipment is constantly being improved, and the camp is proving a real acquisition to the work.

In July several members attended the European Federation Council and its ancillary meetings at St. Michael's Centre, Huizen, Holland. In August was held a most successful Summer School at High Leigh, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire. This continued for a fortnight and was attended by about 80 members for the first week and 100 for the second. No less than 13 well-known speakers contributed to the lectures and discussions under the

general theme of "The Divinity of Man". Although a bigger attendance of members would have been welcome, this must be reckoned as an outstanding Summer School.

We were happy to give hospitality for several weeks to the General Secretary of Iceland, Mr. Gretar Fells, and his wife. We also had a visit from Mr. Otto Viking, who toured for about a month, and Mr. U. G. Krishnamurti, who visited several Lodges.

During the year the work of the Study and Training Committee has continued steadily. The whole of the 300 copies of the study course on *Meditation*, prepared last year, have been sold. It has been published in a slightly modified form as a booklet entitled *Meditation: A Practical Study* by Adelaide Gardner. The study course *An Introduction to Theosophy* has been revised and re-issued, and the Committee is now working on a Speakers' Course. The study courses in general continue to be purchased very freely by Lodges not only in England but also in Australia and South and West Africa. During the year approximately 500 study courses have been sold.

*The Library* continues to be a most useful adjunct to the work. About 11,000 books per annum are issued and nearly 2,000 parcels sent each year. The year has been marked by a steady increase in the issue of books on Comparative Religion. There is a small but steady flow of library subscribers into membership of the Society.

The Theosophical Publishing House (London) Ltd., of which the Theosophical Society in England is a part owner, has had a profitable year of trading, during which it has published the following books: *The Sacred Flame*, P. Bendit; *This Ordered Universe*, ed. C. G. Trew; *Meditation, A Practical Study*, A. Gardner; *The Principles of Astrology*, C. E. O. Carter; *Happiness Now*, J. Pang Way.



The financial position of the Section has been much under discussion, as for many years the income from subscriptions and donations has been considerably less than the expenditure, the deficit being made up from legacies. It has been decided, however, not to increase the annual subscription for the present, as legacies have enabled the Section to maintain its capital, and even slightly to increase it.

Each of the seven Federations continues to work well in its own area arranging conferences, lecture tours and study weekends, and indeed the whole country has again shown by its earnest, persistent and devoted work a spirit of real dedication to the cause of "theosophizing the world."

C. R. GROVES,  
General Secretary.

## INDIA

The most outstanding event of the year has been the election of the new President of the Theosophical Society for the ensuing seven years. We all greatly rejoice in the election of Mr. N. Sri Ram as the President of our great International Society.

The Indian Section offers to our new President fullest co-operation in all that he does for the advancement of the cause of Theosophy and the Theosophical Society.

*Lecture Tours.*—The President visited Bombay, Bangalore, Calcutta, Banaras, Salem, Tanjore, Coimbatore and Trichinopoly. He presided over the annual sessions of the Tamil Districts Federation, the South Indian Theosophical Conference and the North Indian Conference.

Mrs. Bhagirathi Sri Ram accompanied the President on the tour in the Tamil area. She addressed public meetings at various places.

Mrs. Rukmini Devi Arundale introduced in the Indian Parliament a Bill for the Protection of Animal life, and made lecture tours in connection with this work.

The General Secretary and Mrs. Mehta, Mr. Sidney Cook, Mr. M. Subra-

maniam, Mr. J. B. Coats, Miss Hilda Yarrow, Mr. D. M. Vaswani, Mr. Harjivan Mehta, Mr. van de Poll and Mr. C. V. Shah made extensive tours in India, British East Africa and Ceylon.

*Membership.*—We began the year with a total membership of 6,632. During the year 622 members joined the Theosophical Society in India and 271 dormant members were revived. As against this 49 members resigned, 56 members died, 4 members were transferred to other Sections, and 911 members have been dropped due to non-payment of dues, leaving a total of 6,505 members on 30th September 1953. There has thus been a decrease of 127 members.

A new Federation, Madras City, was inaugurated.

*Lodges and Centres.*—We began the year with 377 Lodges and 48 Centres affiliated to the Indian Section. During the year 12 new Lodges and 4 new Centres were formed and 12 dormant Lodges were revived. Seven Lodges and six Centres were declared as dissolved during the year. Thus we have closed the year with 394 Lodges and 46 Centres, a total of 440 units in the Indian Section.



## STATEMENT SHOWING TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS

(IN GOOD STANDING) ON 1ST OCTOBER 1953

Federation	Total No. of members on 1-10-52	Add		Total of Col. Nos. 2, 3 & 4	Deduct				Total of Col. Nos. 6, 7, 8 & 9	Total Number of members on 1-10-53
		New	Revived		Deaths	Resigned	Transfers to other Sections	Dropped (Paid up to 30-9-51)		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andhra Circars ...	1011	86	26	1123	7	...	...	163	170	953
Bengal ...	194	40	3	237	4	3	...	17	24	213
Bihar ...	298	43	16	257	6	...	...	44	50	307
Bombay ...	383	20	23	426	3	10	1	32	46	380
C.I. and Rajasthan ...	278	13	7	298	2	2	...	16	20	278
Delhi ...	123	10	1	134	1	...	...	13	14	120
Gujarat ...	731	71	27	829	11	22	1	76	110	719
Karnataka ...	759	31	16	806	2	...	...	94	96	710
Kerala ...	140	35	7	182	...	...	...	4	4	178
Marathi ...	230	22	2	254	5	...	...	12	17	237
Rayalaseema ...	384	15	16	415	1	1	...	117	119	296
Tamil ...	663	79	7	749	4	4	...	130	138	611
Madras ...	247	27	7	281	4	...	1	15	20	263
Uttar Pradesh ...	675	76	30	781	4	5	...	77	86	693
Youth ...	274	37	21	332	...	...	...	63	63	269
(Headquarters & at large)	242	17	62	321	2	2	1	38	43	278
Total ...	6632	622	271	7525	56	49	4	911	1020	6505

*The Five Year Plan.*—The work under this Plan has steadily progressed during this year.

In addition to circulars to workers, a Workers' Conference was held at Banaras. A Training Course for workers has been prepared. A Regional Camp was held at Adyar and in several Fede-

rations. Brotherhood Week was celebrated by about 150 Lodges.

*Publications.*—It is proposed to improve and enlarge the *Indian Theosophist*.

A number of pamphlets will soon be on sale at a low cost. The work on Hindi publications was continued.

The Indian Book Shop does useful work for the spreading of Theosophical books in the North.

*Theosophical Ashramas.*—There is need to be established a number of Ashramas where intensive study and training can be carried on.

I trust our members and workers will take up this proposal most enthusiastically for the sake of the Theosophical Movement in India.

*The Indian Section Library.*—I am very happy to announce that the late Mrs. K. E. Tibbits of England has bequeathed half of her Estate, about £9,000, to the Indian Section Library, Banaras—the other half having been bequeathed to the Adyar Library. Mrs. Tibbits was a member of the Kashi Tattva Subha Lodge, Banaras, and we are very grateful to her for this handsome legacy. This will enable us to develop the Section Library as also to establish under its auspices Theosophical Research work along several lines.

*The Educational Work.*—At the Section Headquarters the educational work is going on as usual. This consists of (a) The Besant Theosophical School, (b) The Vasant Vihar Hostel, and (c) the occasional bulletin *Teacher*.

As per the decision of the Indian Section Council, taken in 1949 and 1950, efforts have now been finalized for the registration of a Trust to be called the Besant Education Fellowship which will take over the management of the Besant Theosophical School with effect from the new academic year.

*Section Headquarters.*—Mr. G. R. Venkatram was once again appointed

as Treasurer of the Indian Section by the Executive Committee.

Money is needed for repair of buildings and roads.

*Finance.*—Higher dues, voluntary contributions or regular donations are needed to develop our work.

*Conclusion.*—With the new President of the Theosophical Society a new era of work opens out before us. For this work the objective conditions are indeed most propitious. More and more people are today turning to things spiritual. At such a time our work is stupendous. We must meet the requirements of the people and this can be done only if we adopt newer methods of presentation and work suited to the mental and emotional make-up of the people. Our first work, therefore, is to consolidate our movement so that the *labourers* may be united in their endeavour. Secondly, we must understand the needs of the time in which we live. And thirdly, we must equip ourselves in order to meet the special needs of the people whom we desire to serve. The work is indeed great, but together we can show forth the necessary greatness to meet the extraordinary situation in which we find ourselves. If each one of us develops a sense of responsibility to the Movement as a whole, there is no reason why we cannot take the Theosophical Society to greater heights and thus pave the way for the receiving of a New Impulse of Theosophy as we draw closer to the completion of the first Century of the Theosophical Society.

ROHIT MEHTA,

*General Secretary.*

## THE AUSTRALIAN SECTION

The highlight of 1953 was the visit of the International President, Mr. N. Sri Ram. This was his second visit to Australia. The President flew from Colombo by BOAC touching Sydney on August 7 for one day only and then spent four weeks in New Zealand. He returned to Sydney on September 9 and visited the six major Lodges of the Commonwealth, travelling 3,490 miles from east to west. He left Perth on October 17 for India via Indonesia and Burma. He is everywhere highly regarded for his learned and reasonable expositions and for his impressive and friendly demeanour.

The President supplemented his public addresses with broadcast talks and press and newsreel interviews in every city.

Australia was also favoured with a three-weeks visit by Mr. Jinarājadāsa earlier in 1953, synchronizing with the Easter Convention in Melbourne. This was a private visit and there were no public addresses. From The Manor, Sydney, he sent a forward-looking message to Convention urging Theosophists to spread the principles of the True, the Good, and the Beautiful, to refine all the tastes of the Australian people, and to sound the keynote of right citizenship and all aspects of a high and noble life.

**Membership:** The register shows a slight increase for the year ended 30 September 1953, in fact the increase has been continuous for six years. The total increase for 1947-1953 has been 228. The healthy state of the membership is due to the vigorous work of the Lodges and of visiting international lecturers amidst a rapidly growing population. Because of the great distances between Lodges it has been

found expedient to make the utmost use of overseas lecturers. In the main, visiting lecturers work to a seven or eight weeks programme in Sydney and Melbourne (both Lodges numbering 300), four weeks in other places on the mainland, and two weeks in Tasmania.

The keynote of Convention was: How to spread Theosophy more effectively in Australia. Some pertinent points were raised for propaganda.

Financially the Section is in a good position as regards investments and current account. A deficit of nearly £300 in the budget due to increased costs has been covered by the Australian Section Fund, a voluntary alternative to a levy in dues or guaranteed donations.

Among overseas visitors was Mr. J. J. van Ginkel. Mr. and Mrs. H. B. F. Moorhead returned to Adyar, the former to take office as International Treasurer. There are at least three Australian-born workers at Adyar and another Australian has recently joined the School of the Wisdom.

Though not officially a Theosophical activity the Ritual of the Mystic Star is performed every month in Sydney—it is a very effective dramatization of the unity of all religions.

There is a movement to establish drawing-room meetings in suburbs, especially in Sydney, due in some measure to interest aroused by our radio propaganda. It is estimated that our 15-minute broadcast (every Sunday at 9.30 p.m.) reaches up to 250,000 people in the metropolitan area alone, besides a large following outside.

J. L. DAVIDGE,  
General Secretary.

## SWEDEN

**Membership**—In spite of 36 new members the membership has decreased from 434 to 422. The main reason is that we have not reported lapsings for some years.

We have 20 Lodges, 4 in Stockholm which are very active, 4 in Goteborg, Malmö, Örebro and Söllefteå, which work fairly well, and finally in small places 12 more Lodges which have been more or less dormant for some years. The relatively long distance between different parts of the country makes it difficult and expensive for us to send lecturers to visit and support weak Lodges and to start new centres, especially as during the last years we have struggled against increasing economic difficulties. For many years we have not been able to send a lecturer to the few Theosophists in the region of the Arctic Circle. This year we have succeeded in sending a few lecturers to different important places. We had even a new and much appreciated visit by Mr. S. Ransom, from England, who lectured in four towns.

**Lodge Work**—The character of the Theosophical activities is different in every Lodge; together they may represent a balance between the heart, the head and the hand. But there are too few members who nowadays study the depth of *The Secret Doctrine* and too few who have a real capacity to compare Science and Theosophy; also too few members who give public lectures about how Theosophy can illumine the problems which are just now discussed by the man in the street. Seldom do we meet with so much acknowledgment or gratitude as after the public lecture in which we discussed "The sexual facts of the report of Mr. Kinsey" from a Theosophical point of view. The audience proved to us that the world needs such light.

But most of all I find in this Section a need for meditation. The spiritual life must be the root of all our work; meditation therefore became the theme for our very successful Summer School. The Norwegian and Finnish General Secretaries visited this Summer School and lectured, which was much appreciated. All but one of the lectures was given in the Swedish language. Even with regard to the number of those attending and the profit of the Treasurer, this Summer School was a positive sensation.

The renovations of our Headquarters in Stockholm and of the flat of the Lodge in Goteborg are almost completed.

**The Young Theosophists** are not very active here as a special organization. Most young people are needed and absorbed in the work of the Lodges. Only one Lodge has a special Youth-Group, where the members are 10 to 18 years old and have their own meetings. The Round Table is working as usual. The Ritual of the Mystic Star is regularly on the program of the Lodge.

Seven members visited the Congress at Montecatini in Italy. Mr. Erik Cronvall visited Adyar and returned with a valuable colour-film. We were represented at the European Council Meeting in Holland and at the Danish Summer School and Annual Meeting. The Scandinavian Regional Committee had a meeting in Holland with Mr. van Dissel and discussed specially the Scandinavian Summer School in 1954. We are now planning that Summer School in co-operation with the other Scandinavian countries and with great optimism and expectation.

ELIS WIKSTRÖM,

*General Secretary.*



## NEW ZEALAND

We have been greatly honoured this year by a visit from our President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, who arrived on August 8th for a month's tour of the Lodges. A very heavy program was carried out with great success. In addition to visiting Lodges in the four main cities of Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin, the President, when motoring south, stayed one night each at Hamilton and Palmerston North Lodges to enable members from other Lodges not too far distant to come and meet him. The visit to New Zealand had been eagerly awaited and the President was everywhere very warmly welcomed by the members, many of whom had met him in 1946 when he presided at the Golden Jubilee Convention of the Section. On this visit he came as President and gave much inspiration. He revealed the uniqueness of the Society's work and message, and emphasised the part to be played by each member.

*The passing of Brother Raja.*—The news of the passing of our revered leader, Mr. C. Jinarājadāsa, on 18th June at the American Headquarters, was received by our members with great regret. Gatherings were held in the Lodges to honour his passing and many fine tributes were paid. He was a consecrated messenger, a great lover of humanity, and in his passing all felt that the Society had lost one of the noblest and the greatest of its workers. We would like to record here our gratitude and everlasting homage to our beloved Brother with whom we rejoice in the inexpressible happiness of his freedom.

*Presidential Election.*—Mr. N. Sri Ram was our nominated candidate for the office of President. Following the procedure as laid down by the Society's Regulations we took up the vote in New Zealand which resulted as follows :

Number eligible to vote	...	854
Number of votes received	...	607
Number for :		
1. Mr. N. Sri Ram	...	479
2. Shrimati Rukmini Devi.		127
Invalid	...	1

*Changes in Section Officers.*—At the 56th Annual Convention, held in Christchurch in December, 1952, Miss J. G. Montgomery retired from the office of Assistant General Secretary after twelve years of unequalled service. The excellence of her work was widely recognised. She set a high standard in the office and won a deep respect throughout New Zealand for her integrity of character and her devotion to the Society's interests. Our new Assistant General Secretary is Miss C. E. Gregory, who is a retired teacher. Miss Gregory has a keen sense of responsibility and is already proving her efficiency in the office.

A further change is in the office of General Secretary, a position which it has been my privilege to fill for a period of 14 years. The President has honoured our Section by inviting me to take up the work of Recording Secretary at our Headquarters at Adyar and I retire as General Secretary in New Zealand on October 1st, 1953. The Executive Committee of the Section has appointed Mr. W. E. B. Dunningham to be General Secretary from that date until the Convention in December. Mr. Dunningham paid a short visit to Adyar in 1951 and visited the English and American Headquarters in 1952. He is a good lecturer and organiser and with his wife—who will edit *Theosophy in New Zealand*—is deeply interested in the work of the Theosophical Society.

*Membership.*—The membership on 30th September, 1953, stands at 921, as against 933 in 1952—a loss of 12.



*International Funds.*—£72-4-6 was donated this year for the Adyar Day Fund; £23-0-0 for the Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund; and £100 to the President's Travelling Fund. The new Raja Commemorative Fund is meeting with a good response.

*Mr. Geoffrey Hodson.*—Mr. Hodson, after his return from Australia in August 1952, lectured regularly in Auckland until he left for the United States in January, 1953. He has accepted the President's invitation to Adyar to be Director of The School of the Wisdom 1953-54, and returns to New Zealand for a short visit before flying to India in October.

*Publicity.*—Public lectures and the use of literature are the main avenues for publicity. Two thousand copies of a propaganda leaflet were published for free distribution at public lectures during the visit of the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram.

Mr. H. H. Banks as National Lecturer has made extended lecture tours and given much help. Mr. J. J. van Ginkel came over from Australia as a free-lance and lectured in most of our Lodges. Mr. W. E. B. Dunningham made short visits and lectured in the main cities.

*Lodge Jubilees.*—Dunedin Lodge, chartered 60 years ago, celebrated its Diamond Jubilee on 23rd May, 1953, with a week's activities. H.P.B. Lodge, Auckland, which has 350 members,

celebrated its Golden Jubilee in March—its Charter is dated 11th February, 1903. Napier Lodge, chartered also on February 11th 1903, celebrated its Golden Jubilee on that date.

*School of the Wisdom.*—Miss W. E. Miller, Wellington Lodge, was a student for part of the 1951-52 sessions of The School of the Wisdom; Bishop Odo Barry and his wife, New Plymouth Lodge, are to be students for the coming 1953-54 sessions. Our Section has had representatives at the School each year since it was founded.

*Conclusion.*—As General Secretary I have made official visits to 15 out of our 17 Lodges—they have been farewell visits previous to my departure for a time from New Zealand. On retiring from office I have a sense of confidence in the future of the work in this country of the new sub-race. For fifty-seven years a long chain of capable and devoted members has spread the truths of Theosophy in this land. There are many today in the younger generation in the Section to continue the work into the future. When the dynamic ideas of Theosophy illumine the minds and hearts of our people the deeper truths of the spiritual and mystic life will become uppermost. Then shall we build in New Zealand a happier and a finer civilization.

E. HUNT,

General Secretary.

## NETHERLANDS

This report on the year ending September 30, 1953, is specially marked by the fact that it has been drawn up by the successor of the General Secretary who led the activities during the year. For towards its close, my predecessor, Prof. J. N. van der Ley, unexpectedly decided to resign his office, seizing the opportunity

he had been looking for, to emigrate with his wife to Australia where his family is living.

*Membership.*—There has been a slight decrease of 60 members. The total number at the end of the year amounts to 1641.

The appeal for help to our countrymen stricken by the terrible flood

during the night of the first of February found a ready response in our Section. Individually and collectively, all did their utmost, by money or otherwise, to relieve the suffering people. We thankfully acknowledge the contributions given for the same purpose by other European Sections.

*Annual Convention.*—This year the Convention for the first time took place on the estate of St. Michael's Centre at Huizen. The key-note chosen for the subject of the lectures was "Wholism". Mr. and Mrs. Coats, our guests, and Prof. van der Stok elucidated the subject from different

view-points. The Convention proved a great success.

*Work of Lodges.*—The usual activities went on in the Lodges, but in some of them there is a need for renewal of life and more enthusiasm.

*Miss C. W. Dijkgraaf.*—A very well-known worker of international fame, Miss Dijkgraaf, passed away at the age of 88. She was the last of the pioneers left who started the work in Holland nearly sixty years ago.

B. WOUTERS

*General Secretary.*

## FRANCE

During the present year, the Theosophical Society in France has seen a strong development of its activities and has regained its equilibrium and harmony after several years of internal difficulties.

The National Convention, held in April 1953, witnessed this new condition and all decisions were taken in a very friendly spirit. Mr. Francis Brunel was re-elected General Secretary, for a period of three years.

A five year plan of development has been adopted and various practical resolutions taken to implement the program established, thus trying to bring Theosophy to the outer world with increasing strength and efficiency.

In France, and throughout the countries belonging to the French Union or having French speaking population or groups, our work has been continuing methodically. These include: France, Luxembourg, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Cameroun, Congo, Ivory Coast, Dahomey, Gabon, Guinea, French Nigeria, Senegal, Soudan, Tchad, Togo, Volta, Madagascar, the French Antillias and Guyania, the Kingdom of

Cambodia and Tonkin, Ethiopia, Haiti, Lebanon and Turkey.

*Membership and Lodges.*—Two new Lodges have been formed, one in Nice and the other in Paris. This brings to 64 the number of active Lodges in our Section.

Our active membership, amounting to 1,739 in 1952, has fallen to 1,562 as at the date of 1-10-53. This is due to a campaign of secession carried out by certain members, during the second part of 1952, who took the pretext of a disagreement on certain purely administrative matters; 166 members resigned as a result. This negative activity has fortunately stopped and has given rise to a very deep awakening of a living spirit of friendliness and co-operation, and a greater consciousness of our responsibility towards the world as such. During the same period we have nonetheless registered 147 new members and 33 reinstatements; 18 deceased.

*Headquarters.*—A number of very beautiful meetings and exhibitions have been organized in our Headquarters.

**Theosophical Program.**—Regular public Theosophical Lectures and Courses have been given throughout the year, except during the summer vacation period.

**Courses on Music and Spiritual Life.**—Beautiful recordings have been made of these, one of them of ancient Greek music of the second century B.C.

**Library.**—Year after year our Library is enriched by the acquisition of the best books published on philosophy and all branches of knowledge of interest to Theosophists.

**The Publication Scheme.**—Our Publishing House is continuing the reprinting of basic Theosophical works and the publication of contemporary authors. This concern is under the complete control of the French Theosophical Society.

**National Field Program.**—The Young Theosophists have organized this summer in August 1953 near Paris at Verrieres-le-Buisson a camp which was attended by young friends from Denmark, Holland, Germany and Switzerland.

This past year has been rich in events, beginning in October 1952 with the Congress of the European Theosophical Federation in Montecatini. This coincided with the Jubilee Congress of the Italian Section, founded in Rome in 1902, and with the 50th anniversary of Mr. C. Jinarājadāsa's career as lecturer, undertaken in Italy fifty years ago. Mr. Jinarājadāsa and Mr. N. Sri Ram attended the Congress.

The cordial attendance of the civil authorities of Montecatini at the inauguration of the Congress was noteworthy. Upon that occasion the General Secretary of the Italian Sec-

**The Theosophical Mutual Help,** a special group dedicated to help those brothers who are in need, has continued its activity.

**Presidential Elections.**—The French Section organized these elections throughout France and the French Union, giving to every one of the candidates equal and adequate publicity.

**Visit of Mr. C. Jinarājadāsa.**—We have had the happiness to have a last visit from Mr. C. Jinarājadāsa, when he stopped at Marseilles on his way to England.

**European Congress.**—The General Secretary attended the meeting of the European Council at St. Michael, Huizen, in July 1953. Profitable contacts were made with the delegates of the 17 countries represented.

**Evaluation of Work Ahead.**—With our five year expansion program, much work awaits all our members, in order to ensure to Theosophy its real place in the inspiration and development of the spiritual life of the countries in which our action is spreading.

FRANCIS BRUNEL,

General Secretary.

## ITALY

tion, Dr. Gasco, spoke of the various events pertaining to the Italian Section throughout its history in the midst of European and world-wide travail of half a century.

The Italian Section, which in 1938 went through a crisis and was threatened with extinction on account of the racial politics of the Fascist regime, then allied with Nazist Germany, was in effect dissolved by Government Decree on January 4th, 1939.

Anticipating its dissolution, Dr. Arundale, the then President, had nominated as Presidential Agent, Dr. Gasco, with instructions to support

the traditions of the Society, and to use all possible means necessary to safeguard the ideals of Theosophy in Italy. This arduous task, in a moment of danger, was accomplished with firmness and courage by Dr. Gasco, who upon receipt of the Decree of Dissolution, addressed a dignified missive to the head of the Government in defence of the Theosophical ideals and of the Society. This letter was read by Dr. Gasco at the Federal Congress at Montecatini, causing great applause for its author.

The Italian Theosophical Society formally dissolved by Governmental authority carried on, however, clandestinely out of the sheer will of the Presidential Agent, its members and friends, and, in spite of the unchaining of the turmoil of the second world war, they adhered faithfully to the Theosophical ideals which they always considered as an irreplaceable basis for the rebirth of Italy and the world.

Therefore it was easy for Dr. Gasco to reassemble the structure of the Italian Section immediately after the war. The old members answered his appeal, and these were joined by new members. So that when he convened a meeting on April 21st 1946, in Milan, of the members of the reborn Italian Section for the nomination of the General Secretary, and the approval of the program for Theosophical activities, the Section numbered 24 regular Lodges, and 470 members, that is 9

Lodges *more* than the Society had at the time of its dissolution!

Seven years have gone by since that date, and the Italian Section, although in the midst of local difficulties, has slowly grown, and to-day numbers 842 regular members with 44 Lodges, besides 5 Centres.

A constant preoccupation of the General Secretary has been the spreading of Theosophical thought, and the creation of the Theosophical attitude in a world of sceptics and conformers. These difficulties are met with in other countries also, but in Italy they are more emphasized by its three millenniums of traditional civilization and by the fact that Italy is the centre of Catholicism which exercises not only an influence moral and ethical, but also a political influence through the party in power.

The General Secretary during the year has visited the following groups: Turin, Novara, Genova, Trieste, Roma and Napoli. He partook also actively at the Jubilee Congress of the European Theosophical Federation held at Huizen.

The Italian Section held a National Congress in Rome from 1st to 4th October 1953, with the participation of 153 regular members and numerous sympathizers. Dr. Gasco was re-elected General Secretary.

G. GASCO,

*General Secretary.*

## GERMANY

The conditions in our country are still the same as last year. We have the same difficulty in getting suitable rooms for public lectures. The expenses for halls and for all means of advertising are also very high.

The work in our Lodges is steady and in some parts of our Section is

very alive. The Lodges in the western part of Germany (Rheinland-Westfalen) have joined together and several times in the year they have common meetings at different places. There are very good reports from the Lodges in Berlin and Hamburg, which are doing excellent work. A number of smaller



Lodges are not so active and it seems necessary to make the Lodges more alive by giving new aspirations and showing the way to contact the problems of our time in the outer world. In this sense the General Council of the European Federation this summer published a resolution which has been sent to all Lodges and recommended for discussion. It seems very urgent to avoid a stagnation of our work through clinging to old methods which are no longer in accordance with the spirit of the age.

The culmination of the activity of our Section was again the Summer School at Rendsburg attended by 60 members. It was the fourth time that we gathered there for a week, living and studying together. Again we have had a few guests from other countries who helped us in our work by giving us splendid lectures, Mr. U. G. Krishnamurti from Adyar and Mr. and Mrs. Vermeulen from the Netherlands. We lived together in a spirit of brotherliness and wonderful music was enjoyed by the visitors every day. We had a meditation every morning and just during our closing meeting we had a surprise visit from Mr. J. Coats from England who addressed the members. All friends present have been very happy and hope that this part of our work in Germany may be continued regularly.

Our members were supplied also during the year with the quarterly journal *Adyar*, a regional paper for the three German speaking Sections: Austria, Germany and Switzerland. Circular letters from the General Secretary have been issued to the members informing them about the work of the Society in our country, and to bring them into contact with the Theosophical work as a whole.

The General Secretary, with two official delegates and a few other German members, attended the Golden Jubilee Convention of the General Council of the Federation of European Sections at Huizen. It was very useful that they could participate in the international spirit at this meeting with so many representatives of different countries of Europe.

Later in the summer some German members visited another Summer School in Austria which is intended to become a regional arrangement for all German speaking Theosophists in Europe.

During the year under report we have had 35 incoming and 43 outgoing members, so that our total number is almost the same as before. Altogether we have 20 Lodges and 3 Centres and 623 members.

MARTIN BOYKEN,  
General Secretary.

## CUBA

Changes have been made in the offices of Section Treasurer and Secretary of the Executive Committee. It has been necessary to make these changes because of imperative circumstances; and more especially, with regard to the Secretaryship of the Executive Committee, because the outgoing Secretary, Sr. Pelagio Garma Vargas, is not a lawyer, and the laws of the Republic of Cuba require that

whoever fills such a position in any kind of Institution, Society, Association, whatever, must be one. The new Secretary Dr. Mario Martinez Fernandez is a lawyer.

The number of Lodges in the Section has remained unaltered at 33 Lodges. This has been the case, as far as I have been able to investigate, for the past two or three years. With regard to the Lodges in the East, only three



are working regularly. In the Central region, with the exception of three Lodges which are hardly active, the other nine are doing active work. In the Western region, with the exception of Lodges GUANE, DHURVA and ALCI-ONE, the rest (nine) are hard at work.

To our previous report of 622 members, we have to add the rejoining our Section of Sr. Juan Cruz Bustillo; there are two losses due to death.

*The Revista Teosofica Cubana* is acquiring a better presentation, both in its format and in the quality of the articles that it publishes. This is confirmed by the letters we have received.

During the year we received a visit from Dr. Eduardo Alfonso, a distinguished Spanish Doctor, who has written numerous books. At No. 634 Lombillo he gave one lecture a week over a period of three months.

If this year has not been quite harmonious among the members of our Section we hope that, by the time of the next visit of our beloved President, Cuba will be able to present a Theosophical atmosphere in keeping with our desire for Peace.

RAMÓN MELERO LOBATO,

*General Secretary.*

## HUNGARY

### No Report

## FINLAND

Our main problem has been how to carry Theosophy to every door so that it becomes a power in the life of the people. Taking that into consideration, all the Lodges have been earnestly active throughout the year holding regular meetings.

In Helsinki Headquarters a questions and answers meeting for the public was held every Saturday. Activities for children and of the Round Table have continued as before.

Some public lectures have been delivered in the country by the General Secretary and by some of the Lodge members.

The chief Theosophical Anniversaries were celebrated. We collected Fmk. 50,000 for the Adyar Day Fund.

We were fortunate in having 23 of our members as our representatives at the European Congress at Montecatini in Italy, in October 1952.

Our old friend Mr. Otto Viking lectured to members in Helsinki.

The Presidential Election took place in the beginning of the year 1953; 368 of our members sent in their votes, and 304 were in favour of Mr. N. Sri Ram.

We were greatly privileged to have among us in March for 12 days Mr. Sidney Ransom who visited Helsinki, Tampere, Metsamaa, Turku, Lahti and Lappeenranta. His visit increased enthusiasm for work among our members and left with them great inspiration.

The Annual Convention was held at Easter, when the General Secretary, Miss Signe Rosvall, was re-elected for the years 1953-56. Delegates and visitors experienced then three days of happiness.

One of our members was present at the Summer School in Denmark and one in England. Two delegates were

present at the Council Meetings of the European Federation in Huizen.

The passing of Mr. C. Jinarājādāsa has been a matter of regret to all. We offer to him grateful thanks for years of inspiration and leadership. Soon after the news of his passing was received a memorial meeting was held in Helsinki.

We continued publishing *Teosofi*, our monthly magazine which proved to be a much appreciated link between members, as well as a good means of propaganda for outsiders. We published in translation the book *Theosophy* by Dr. Annie Besant. This book has not been translated into Finnish before.

The number of new members during the year was 13, and those discontinu-

ing 15, making the total membership 708.

Some Colleges for Adult Education have been interested in Theosophy, and Mr. Yrjö Kallinen has been called to lecture on the subject.

This autumn we had the pleasure to see here the Adyar 1950 Jubilee film. It has been shown twice in Helsinki and seven provincial Lodges have seen it. The General Secretary visited at the same time these Lodges, speaking about Adyar and our work.

So we go steadily forward. We have not been insensitive to the great changes that are taking place everywhere. We only hope that by our humble efforts some greater realization of Brotherhood can be achieved.

SIGNE ROSVALL,

*General Secretary.*

## RUSSIA

### Section Dissolved

## CZECHOSLOVAKIA

### No Report

## SOUTHERN AFRICA

With the ending of Brother Jinarājādāsa's term of Presidency, we have entered a new phase in our work, one of the many phases which come and pass, each marked by certain characteristics typical of the individuality and temperament of the World President. The Work, to Brother Raja, was all-important, and it was the core of his life, and I think it is this tremendous dedication to the Cause which will

always stand out as the greatest quality he offered.

*Presidential Ballot.*—During the year the ballot was taken throughout the Section; 307 votes were recorded, of which 239 votes were for Mr. N. Sri Ram and 66 for Rukmini Devi Arundale and two blank papers. Mr. Sri Ram's visit to Southern Africa was a great inspiration to those who heard him and it was one of the highlights in the

history of this Section, which has made a lasting impression. We warmly welcome him as our new President.

**Lodges and Centres.**—A new Centre was formed at Gwelo, Southern Rhodesia. We now have seventeen Lodges, ten of which were formed since 1950. In all these young Lodges we have found a very enthusiastic response to our ideas and here and there we have met with most promising new members. The established Lodges have carried on with their usual work.

**Lecturers.**—Miss Clara Codd has lectured in several Lodges after her return from India. Members in the bigger Lodges have provided splendid talks, not only in their own Lodges but also to other groups. Mrs. Stakesby-Lewis and I visited the Rhodesian Lodges and Gwelo, and opened a new Centre in the latter town. We also made regular visits to Vereeniging, Vanderbyl Park and Westonaria. It is impossible to do justice to all who have helped with lecturing and thus stimulated their audiences with fresh ideas.

**Membership.**—Our membership shows a decrease of eight. The number of new admissions which were 87 was however very satisfactory. The total membership now stands at 638.

**Correspondence Course.**—Several Lodges have appointed correspondents who have done excellent work with the Course. A scheme was drawn up to start a campaign first in districts where a good follow-up would be guaranteed. The Course has also proved most useful to new Lodges as a guide for initial studies.

**Publicity.**—Our Publicity Officer, Mrs. Scarnell-Lean, reports that approximately 1,500 pamphlets have been distributed, most of which were sold at cost price. Attempts were made to encourage Lodges to experiment with a varied display of pamphlets and magazines, and assorted parcels were made up. Transcripts were made of

Mr. Sri Ram's recordings and submitted to him for approval.

**Section Library.**—Miss Cowling has completed the new catalogue, which is now available. Several new books have been added to the Library, mostly books which were sent to us for review, and a number of other useful additions. A good use has been made of the Library, which has now become an indispensable part of Section work.

**Institute for Theosophical Publicity.**—Two new editions appeared during the year, *Bruno*, by an anonymous member, and *Harvest*, an anthology compiled from articles and lectures given by members of our Section. The text of both was approved by the National Executive Committee.

**Clara Codd Pension Trust Fund.**—The Fund receives regular international as well as national support. Donations, less amounts paid out to Miss Codd, left a slightly increased balance.

**Adyar Day Fund.**—£10 was sent to Adyar towards the purposes of this fund.

**Service Group Work.**—The Organizer of Service work, Mrs. L. Membrey, has compiled a most interesting list of activities in which members are engaged. Even if we do not act as a Society in various other activities, it is reassuring to know that Theosophists everywhere are actively engaged in good works on the physical no less than on higher planes.

**The Link.**—Four numbers of our Section Journal *The Link* have been issued during the year, and these were sent to all members, to our non-member subscribers, and to all the Sections, leaving a few copies to be used at the discretion of the National President. We were very glad that Mrs. Eleanor Stakesby-Lewis has agreed to continue editing *The Link*. She has endeavoured to feature in every number some article of interest from one of our international leaders, news from around the Section, articles from members in Southern Africa representing various

aspects of Theosophy and personal experiences, and also whenever possible one elementary article on straight Theosophy for the enquirer or new member. Besides this, there is the regular Lodge directory, enabling members to know where to contact other Lodges, and, last but not least, the children's page for the benefit of children of members. I know of one member who collects these and pastes them into a book for the time when her little son will be old enough to enjoy them. *The Link* goes to public libraries in South Africa, and this brings us every year some very kind letters of acknowledgment from their librarians. I must thank our printer, Mr. K. M. Pillay, for printing our magazine at such a reasonable cost.

*Conclusion.*—A report such as this one usually only deals with physical plane matters. I wish we could make a report of the influence our teaching may have had in the sphere of national thought,—of people who might have been enlightened by a helpful thought,

inspired by a thoughtform of the grandeur of life, or led to philanthropic action by our all-pervading brotherhood-idea. Perhaps, some day, someone may read this report in the akashic records.

But from our own experience I do know how Theosophy has helped very many, for whom it has been a life-changer and a source of power, which has charged them to face life with renewed courage. Wherever we go we meet hungry souls who crave for the wisdom which is entrusted to our care. It is the great dharma of any one of us, who has tasted of the Reality behind the face of things, to carry the torch into places of darkness and to make men realise that the Way, the Truth and the Light are in the hearts of all, and that it is in the human heart that we must find this path towards Divine Perfection, for along all paths does He welcome the true Pilgrim.

S. STAKESBY-LEWIS,

*General Secretary.*

## SCOTLAND

The membership, now standing at 287, shows a loss of 11 for the year, largely due to the strict suspension of members who are two years in arrears, but there is reason to believe that some at least of these will re-join later.

Practically all the usual activities have been carried on throughout the year, though one Lodge has been obliged to suspend its public meetings for the time being. The Library continues its valuable work on a large scale, the total number of volumes now standing at 7,715, of which 1,725 were given out in the course of the year. Scotland has contributed during the year to the various Adyar Funds as follows: Adyar Day Fund, £4-16-6; President's Travelling Fund, £7-3-3;

Olcott Harijan Schools, £7-19-3. The total contribution to the A.B.C. Fund since its inception has been £288-5-10.

The General Fund of the Section shows a moderate deficit for the year, but this is substantially lower than that of last year, and it is expected that next year will show a still further reduction in the adverse balance, as a result of measures taken last year to cope with the situation.

The General Secretary has visited all three Districts of the Section during the year, to lecture both to members and the public and to meet them personally. He has also undertaken four lecturing tours in the English Section as well as representing Scotland at the



European Congress at Montecatini last October and at the English Convention in London in May of this year.

The Annual Convention of the Section was held in Glasgow, on the 27th and 28th of June, with Mr. C. R. Groves, General Secretary of the English Section, as Guest of Honour. There was a goodly gathering, and the Convention proved both a happy and successful one, being enriched with some fine contributions from Mr. Groves. The General Secretary, at the opening, paid tribute to the late Mr. Jinarājādāsa, and the members stood in silence for a brief space, in

remembrance of him and in recognition of his life-work of distinguished service to the Society.

In retrospect, the year just ended is, it would appear, one of marking time, or even one registering a slight loss of ground as regards membership, though not so marked as in some former years, and, with a wholehearted dedication to the work on the part of all the members, any retrogressive tendency should not only be arrested but reversed.

EDWARD GALL,

*General Secretary.*

## SWITZERLAND

**Membership.**—The Swiss Section consists at present of 258 members divided in 12 Lodges and 4 Centres.

**Visitors to the Section.**—Rukmini Devi paid us a short visit and on November 17th gave a talk to celebrate that special date. As usual her presence inspired us very much. Two American members, Mrs. and Mr. Luntz, also visited Switzerland.

To vivify our work, we invited the following international lecturers: Mlle. Serge Brisy, General Secretary of Belgium, who gave very interesting lectures in many French Swiss towns; Mr. von Fielitz-Coniar has spoken in French in Geneva, he also gave many lectures in German in Basel, Zürich and in the Tessin. Mr. Schleifer, General Secretary of Austria, has also given some lectures in German Switzerland.

**Journeys of the General Secretary.**—During the Spring of 1953 the General Secretary visited all the Lodges and Centres of French Switzerland, Italian Switzerland and German Switzerland. Thus the contact with the new General Secretary has been firmly and usefully established.

The General Assembly of the Section took place at "La Chaux-de-Fonds" where all the Lodges and Centres were represented and the atmosphere was most enthusiastic and fraternal.

**Public Work.**—In German Switzerland Hans Peter Wyss continued giving public lectures. At the General Headquarters in Geneva we had every week one or two lectures given by Mr. Albert Sassi, Mr. Alfred Reisch and Mr. Georges Tripet. Mr. Décosterd proved to be a new help for our public work. At the end of 1952 Mr. Georges Tripet was invited to give a lecture at Lyons.

Many members of the Section participated either in the French Summer School at Louette-St. Pierre in Belgium or in the German Summer School at Pichl in Austria. Those two Summer Schools were organized by the European Federation. Some members of the Swiss Section were present at Huizen for the celebration of the Federation's Golden Jubilee.

**Lodges.**—The activity of the Lodges continued as before. In June and on 1st October we paid homage to the



memory of Mr. C. Jinarājadāsa, our late President.

**Conclusion.**—The General Secretary is very grateful to all workers who helped her, especially to the Treasurer Mr. J. Kläsi, to the Librarian Mr. G. Reiner, to the Library-keeper Mrs. A. de Berg and to the Secretary of the Central Committee Mrs. van de Poll. As the General Secretary had many

problems to solve at the beginning of her term of office, she was unable to carry out different plans she had in mind but she hopes to do so in the spring of 1954; among others the organization of a course of lectures for beginners.

RACHEL TRIPET,  
*General Secretary.*

## BELGIUM

**Membership.**—Last year we had 317 members. Now we have 321.

**Lodges.**—The same number as last year—11; 6 in Brussels, 3 in Antwerp 1 in Liege and 1 in Gand. A group is being formed in Natoye, near Namur, where very devoted members have meetings with interested people. Mr. Hiernaux and myself lectured there with about 12 persons attending.

One of our Committee members, Mr. A. Hiernaux, went on a tour of 4 months in our Colony (Congo Belge) and gave several lectures in Leopoldville, awakening much interest even among the Congolese population. There also we hope to form a regular Group.

**Lectures.**—42 public meetings have been held. We may add to these the regular meetings of the Lodges and the Commemoration of November 17th, February 17th (Adyar Day) and White Lotus Day.

**Theosophical Courses.**—Mr. Neels and myself started in March an Elementary Course on Theosophy for new members and non-members, which was very well attended.

**The Library and Book-shop** are active and doing good work. One of our Antwerp members, Mr. Calessens, has edited two very useful pamphlets on Theosophy and Reincarnation, and these pamphlets have been largely and freely distributed in Brussels, Antwerp,

Liege and Gand. The publication has been done both in French and Flemish.

In Brussels we issued two pamphlets: *The Science of Theosophy* (G. S. Arundale) and another on *Reincarnation*.

**Members lecturing in other countries.**—The General Secretary of the Belgian Section was invited to lecture in Switzerland and visited Geneva, Lausanne and La Chaux de Fonds. Mr. Hiernaux visited the Belgian Congo, Mr. Th. Chapellier went for a fortnight to the South of France and was invited to lecture in Nice, Marseilles, Monte-Carlo and Antibes and also Cannes. Mme. Sauvan and Mr. Feuillerstein, from Paris, gave us an interesting lecture on art with films. Mr. U. G. Krishnamurti from Adyar was our guest and spoke on the subject *Why Theosophy*. Dr. Raghavan from Madras was also our guest and lectured on *Some leading Ideas of Hindu Thought*.

**Order of Service.**—The Theosophical Society in Belgium made an appeal to the members when the floods occurred in Holland, England and Belgium. We sent a large sum to the Calamity Fund of the Red Cross in Brussels and also another sum to the General Secretary of the Netherlands for the Dutch members, and another large sum to the Dutch Consulate together with clothes and linen.

**Convention.**—Our Convention was a very happy one. Mlle. Serge Brisy was re-elected General Secretary and the full Committee was re-elected. Mr. Roggen from Liege was appointed as the representative of the Wallon part

of the country on our Committee in the place of one of our most active and beloved members, Mme. Henri Verheyen, who passed over in April.

SERGE BRISY,  
General Secretary.

## INDONESIA

No. Report

## BURMA

The outstanding event, not only in the life of the Society in Burma, but of the Society as a whole, has been the passing on, during the year, of Brother C. Jinarājadāsa, whose services for the Society for over fifty years have been outstanding in every field of its activity. We remember him with affection and record our gratitude to him for all that he has done for the Society and the world.

The Burma Section held its election for the office of the President of the Society which Brother Jinarājadāsa had vacated a few months before his passing. The members in Burma, by an overwhelming majority, declared their preference for Brother N. Sri Ram for the high office of President, and we are glad to record that he has been duly elected.

The political situation in the country having improved considerably, attention is now concentrated by the Government of the Union of Burma, through the Union Buddha Sasana Council, on the preparations for the Sixth Buddhist Synod (Chattha Sangayana) which is to be held in Rangoon during the years 1954 to 1956. There is increasing interest among the general public in the application of religion in their daily lives, and particularly in *Vipassana*, the practice of meditation. Meditation

Centres, where practical guidance is given by experienced *sayadaws* and lay teachers in the orthodox methods of Buddhist meditation, have attracted disciples from all over the country as well as from abroad. We are particularly glad to record that the Buddhist Flag, which was designed and unfurled by our President-Founder, Col. H. S. Olcott, at Adyar at Full Moon on Wesakh Day, 18th May 1886, has now been universally adopted as the Buddhist Flag by the World Fellowship of Buddhists. This flag now flies on all religious and public buildings throughout Burma on all important religious occasions.

**Lodges.**—So far only four of the Lodges in Burma have been revived, namely, the Olcott Lodge and the Youth Lodge in Rangoon, the Lotus Lodge in Mandalay and the Blavatsky Lodge in Maymyo. As the political situation and general conditions in the country have improved we may now look forward to the early revival of our other Lodges.

**Membership.**—Our membership showed a slight fall by two members, our strength at the end of the year being 79 against 81 of the previous year.

**Finance.**—The year opened with a balance of K. 1096.31 and closed with K. 947.55.

**Visitors.**—Miss Helen Zahara, the Recording Secretary of the Society, after handing over charge of her office to her successor at Adyar, passed through Rangoon on her way to America. Much impetus was given to the work by the lectures she delivered and the discussions which she had in Rangoon. She delivered four impressive lectures during her short stay, which were all well received.

**Conventions.**—As in previous years, two Conventions were held in Rangoon during the year, one being the Section Convention held in October 1952 and another the Support Convention held in December to synchronize with the International Convention held at Adyar. The Burma Section was represented at the International Convention by the General Secretary, Mr. C. R. N. Swamy, and by Mr. N. A. Naganathan.

**The Olcott Lodge, Rangoon** was, as usual, the main centre of activity. Sunday morning lectures on Theosophical subjects were regularly held, as also the study classes on Wednesdays. Membership subscriptions were supplemented by substantial contributions by members to the Self Denial Fund, out of which the Lodge Building has been further renovated and much improvement effected. The Lodge celebrated all important days of the Theosophical Calendar, the White Lotus Day, Foundation Day, Adyar Day, as well as the United Nations Day.

**The Rangoon Youth Lodge** was, as usual, responsible for the social and lighter side of the Society's activities in Rangoon.

**The Book Depot in Rangoon** received a large consignment of books during the year out of which the Lodge Library was replenished. Sales were brisk both at the Lodge and at the various bookstalls in the city where the books were placed for sale on consignment. A large and representative collection of books was presented to the Public Library maintained by the

Ramakrishna Mission Society and a complete set of all the books available was also purchased by the National Library which is now taking shape. Books on occultism are now very popular.

**The Lotus Lodge, Mandalay**, has still not been able to get back possession of its premises and meanwhile meetings are held in the house of a member, where a number of Theosophical books have been studied. The Lodge is active in animal-welfare work and has also organized an English Speaking Club, which holds its meetings at the Town Hall.

**The Blavatsky Lodge, Maymyo**, has the largest membership, except for the Olcott Lodge, Rangoon, and has been active throughout the year. However, visits from workers and speakers from abroad will help in further strengthening the Lodge.

**The Burma Educational Trust Co-educational School.**—The School was gradually raised to a High School after the war, but the High and Middle Departments had to be closed for various considerations. The fifth standard was added to the School during the year and the School hopes to be a full Middle School by 1956.

**The Burma Humanitarian League.**—Members of the Society have, as usual, been actively engaged in the work of the League, which is housed in the premises of the Olcott Lodge, Rangoon. The League has recorded substantial progress in its efforts for animal welfare. The Government of Burma has been gracious enough to close all slaughter houses in the country, at the instance of the League, on all important national and religious celebrations. The work for vegetarianism and against animal sacrifices has gained much momentum and the League enjoys both official and public support in its noble work.

**Conclusion.**—A new era of Theosophical endeavour opens up before us

with our new President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, at the helm of the Society's affairs. Much work awaits the Burma Section by way of rehabilitation of the Society's activities in this country after the ravages of the last war. Let us

pledge ourselves anew to do our very best in the rebuilding and revitalising of the Society in Burma.

C. R. N. SWAMY,  
General Secretary.

## AUSTRIA

As in former years 13 Lodges, situated in four towns, Vienna, Graz, Bruck a.d. Mur. and Linz, worked in our Section.

Though this year 11 members joined the Section, we lost 16 members. The number of members is 317.

In Vienna and Graz public lectures were delivered fortnightly while the different Lodges held their regular meetings.

In September 1952 Dr. A. Vreede from Huizen visited the Styrian Federation of the Theosophical Society in Graz. At the Golden Jubilee Convention of the Italian Section in October 1952 nine members from Vienna, three from Graz and one each from Bruck and Linz were present at Montecatini.

In April 1953 the General Secretary and his wife were invited by the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Europe to a meeting, in Basle, of the German-speaking regions to discuss the plan of a Regional Summer School for German-speaking members. I delivered a lecture in Basle and another in Zurich.

Dr. Norbert Lauppert, Vice-President of our Section, visited some Lodges of this Section, in Witten, Dortmund, Hannover, Bremen, Hamburg and Frankfurt a. Main, delivering there Theosophical lectures.

At the 50th Jubilee Convention of the Theosophical Society in Europe, I was present at the Theosophical Centre at Huizen together with two delegates.

On August 31st till September 7th 1953, the first German Regional Summer School took place in the hamlet of Pichl, in a very beautiful place on the slopes of the well-known Dachstein mountains. A reconstructed old castle of the 11th century was the seat of the Summer School at which 18 members from Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands as well as 47 Austrian members met. The chief topic of the School was *Actual problems of the present*.

This topic was split up in the following themes: "Die Erneuerung der Religion als Forderung Gegenwart", "Das Problem der Lenkung asozialer Menschen", "Die Ethik der Theosophie und die Moralbegriffe der modernen, westlichen Civilization", "Was noetig ist: Brückenbau zur Gemeinschaft der Neuen Zeit" and "Du und Dein Problem" with questions and answers.

Every evening some groups of the members performed folklore songs of Austria, Switzerland, Netherlands and Germany. Some members gave serious and humorous sketches, accompanied by piano and guitar. All these opened the minds and uplifted the hearts of all the friends to a warmer and more brotherly conduct.

On a very fine day a trip by cars was made to the beautiful Austria-Huette, a hostel situated 5,100 feet above the sea, upon the ranges of the Dachstein mountain.

The last evening a very original group of Salzbourger peasants performed



their dances and songs in their costumes of old, accompanied by their old string instruments: zither and hackbrett. These performances gave everybody a very good impression of the still pure soul of this mountaineering people.

The wonderful surroundings of Pichl, the cheerfulness of its inhabitants, the wonderful spirit of brotherliness which reigned throughout the whole community, as well as an unbroken chain of crystal-clear sunny days, satisfied all visitors to this new Summer School in Styria and brought it to a full success.

The desire for a repetition of this experiment in 1954 was stressed by all visitors again and again till it was noted finally by the Executive Organ of the Section, the "Zentral-Rat".

As to the outer arrangements I would like to stress that a very great part of the success was due to my wife, Frau Helene Schleifer, whose enthusiastic co-operation and practical counsels prepared the way for this enterprise.

FRITZ SCHLEIFER,

*General Secretary.*

## NORWAY

This year the Norwegian Section has been favoured with various visits from abroad.

The first visitor was the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, himself. Then in November we were visited by our old friend Mr. Otto Viking.

Thanks to the generous help from the English Section, we were in February 1953 favoured with a visit from Mr. Sidney Ransom, who gave inspiring and enlightening lectures.

In September I took a short trip to our Lodges in Stavanger and Haugesund.

To the great European Congress at Montecatini in October Mr. Erling Havrevold went as our delegate. On his return he gave two lectures on the Congress, and these were summarized in an article for our Sectional magazine.

In order to get an impression as to what the readers of our magazine (both members and non-members) think about this magazine and its editorial policy, I sent a circular letter to all subscribers with diverse questions. To this I had the pleasure of receiving many answers.

As in previous years, our magazine *Norsk Teosofisk Tidsskrift* has been published with 6 issues a year, thanks to the financial help so generously given by Mr. Erling Havrevold and Mr. S. Bartz Johannessen.

Our office for information and book sales has been open for two hours three days a week. We have now 163 members and 7 Lodges.

ERNST NIELSEN,

*General Secretary.*

## EGYPT

No Report



## DENMARK

All the Lodges have during the season held regular Lodge meetings. At Aalborg, Aarhus and Copenhagen public lectures have been given.

At Aalborg a new Lodge has been formed by 7 members from the Aalborg Lodge and a new member. There has been good co-operation between the two Lodges.

In Copenhagen the Yggdrasil Lodge and the Olcott Lodge have come to an agreement about uniting the two Lodges into one.

In the month of March we had a visit from Mr. Sidney Ransom, who made a lecture tour in Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark. The members were very thankful for Mr. Ransom's visit.

We had our Annual Convention in Copenhagen in the first days of May. The number of members is now 316.

In July the Section held a Summer School at Gammel Praestegaard. The School was attended by 30 to 40 members. Amongst these were 9 from England. There were also members from Norway, Sweden and Finland. The School was led by Mr. Ransom and was very successful and harmonious.

As in previous years, Mr. Otto Viking held a Summer School in July at Besantgaarden. Members received much inspiration from the Summer Schools at Gammel Praestegaard and at Besantgaarden.

J. H. MÖLLER,  
*General Secretary.*

## IRELAND

In this country there are many difficulties to be overcome in the attempt to spread the teaching of Theosophy, nevertheless the intensity of the work done by the more enthusiastic members has compensated to a large extent for the regrettably small total of our numbers, and the work is being done.

Our most vigorous activities are :

(1) A new members group has been formed. In this group less experienced members are taught such details of organization as chairmanship, public speaking, management of meetings and answering of questions.

(2) A study group under the able leadership of Mr. Pielou, on the Seven Rays, which has proved of very great interest to members.

(3) An enquirers class held monthly has made an encouraging start. It is not possible to assess the value of such a class. We must be available to any

one who wants to know what is meant by Theosophy, and to sow the seed of knowledge. We hope that this activity may one day lead to an increase in our membership.

Added to these activities we have frequent enquiries and requests for literature from different parts of the country.

We are very grateful to those visiting lecturers who have come to help us by giving public lectures and talks to members. From overseas we have had Mrs. Doris Groves, Capt. Muirson Blake, Mr. U. G. Krishnamurti, Mr. Charles Shores and Miss Edith Keene. From Northern Ireland Dr. Hugh Shearman, Miss D. Fowler, Miss Chase and Miss M. Newby. We are also indebted to Mrs. F. Gourley, Mr. A. O'Murnaghan and Mr. R. Duck, as well as different members of the Dublin Lodges, for most interesting lectures.

Extra meetings were held on United Nations Day and on White Lotus Day.

At the annual Business meeting of the Dublin Lodges I was nominated as General Secretary for the year 1953/54, and Mr. Pielou as National Treasurer.

I have been very fortunate that in my first year as General Secretary I was able to represent Ireland at the American Convention at Olcott, U.S.A. and also at the European Congress at Montecatini in Italy, and more recently at the English Convention in London.

The Dublin Lodges Library continues its useful function; it is open two afternoons each week and also after meetings. Books are freely borrowed, not only by members but by the public as well. Book sales from our book table have been satisfactory.

The Section Magazine *Theosophy in Ireland* keeps us in touch with Sections all over the world, though regretfully we have had to reduce its publication to three copies per annum instead of four. This is entirely due to the largely increased cost of production.

The Gift table and sale at Christmas was as usual a very successful and enjoyable event, and special thanks are due to all those who worked so hard to achieve what we set out to do.

We are very grateful to the American Section for all the pamphlets they have sent us and also to the English Section for study courses, and to the many Sections who send us their Magazines.

I want to remind members that the growth of our Society depends upon the sharing of responsibility and not leaving everything to the few called Executive. It depends upon the help and co-operation of every individual member and for this combined effort I ask your help. The interest that has been shown and the work that has been done gives me confidence in looking ahead to the spreading of a wider knowledge and an increased membership in this country.

EVELYN O. HORNIDGE,  
General Secretary.

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## MEXICO

First of all, most cordial salutations to our new President Mr. N. Sri Ram. May the Fortitude and Wisdom of our Lords The Masters help and inspire him in his arduous duties.

Our 1952 Convention was held at this city of Mexico, Dec. 27-29, 1952, attended by delegates from Lodges. Very harmonious gatherings were enjoyed and the writer was then re-elected General Secretary.

Starting on February 5th 1953 the General Secretary made a 47-days lecture tour through the Northern States of this country, visiting Lodges and presenting Theosophy in places where our teachings were still unknown. At the cities of Chihuahua, Torreon and Frontera his lantern lectures were delivered in large Masonic Temples. Noteworthy was the eagerness with

which young people listened and asked for "more lectures".

Mr. Ernest Wood and his wife, coming from the United States, arrived in the city of Monterrey in January. He delivered two public lectures. He then stayed in the city of Mexico for a couple of weeks and we profited by his visit, inviting him to deliver three public lectures. He also very kindly directed at our Headquarters six private studies on *The Secret Doctrine*. On his return trip to U. S. A. he stopped at Monclova, Coah. where a new Lodge was founded by Mrs. Susana S. de Sánchez, on the 17th of February 1953, Mr. Wood being the Hon. Co-Founder and member; the name of the new Lodge *Presencia Gloriosa* having been taken from one of Mr. Wood's latest books.

At the City of Puebla, a Brigadier-General on active service became enthusiastic about Theosophy and set himself to organize a Lodge, which was born on May 17th 1953. This Lodge, working in a place full of the conventional Roman-Catholic influences, where four previous Lodges decayed, has since grown very greatly.

At the rural School on our Theosophical premises *Adyar*, 20 miles north of the City, free primary education is imparted to some 24 boys and girls, by Prof. Aura L. Chagoya. The prayers at the daily opening of the School lay great stress upon the brotherhood of all children irrespective of countries, color or social standing. Monthly donations are collected and sent by some Lodges to help Prof. Aura Chagoya in her noble work.

Srta. Luz Maria Durand also has worked and lectured almost every day of the year in several countries of South America . . . "drawing large audiences, inspiring members and being responsible for bringing new members into the work. . ." So wrote of her in 1952 our late and beloved President Mr. Jinarājādāsa, adding, "I hope she will be able to continue with her splendid work and enthusiastic contribution. . ." With excess is she fulfilling such hopes. After a wonderful whirlwind of Theosophical action in Brazil, she visited Uruguay and Argentina where she started a series of lectures Feb. 6th, 1953, and, after a tour through the interior, arrived in Chile to work during March-April, proceeding thence via Antofagasta to Bolivia (April 22nd); she continued with her fruitful mission to Perú where her work was highly appreciated. Going forward as an Ambassador of Theosophy, she entered into Ecuador, a land very much in need of our teachings; and after sowing there sound Theosophical seeds, at the beginning of August she flew to Colombia where she is still lecturing with great public success.

The beautiful and inspiring Mystic Star Ritual, established in this city (1938) by our great Brother C. Jinarājādāsa, was performed at Headquarters twice every month as well as at the time of Summer and Winter Solstices.

We deeply loved and appreciated Brother Jinarājādāsa who visited Mexico twice: 62 days in 1929; 30 days in 1938, lecturing at 26 cities and 2 villages, almost daily, working then as he "never had done in other countries", according to his own words. At Headquarters and at several cities of the interior, our Lodges organized solemn commemorative meetings to pay homage to our great Teacher, Friend and Brother.

*Propaganda.*—Sr. Abel Cárdenas Chavero, head of *Editorial Orion*, inspired by altruistic feelings and considering the present difficulties in some American and other countries to obtain Theosophical books, made, as a second gift, the following substantial remittances of postal parcels, utterly free of any charge and containing many hundreds of books to be freely distributed among Theosophists:

30 Packets to the Brazilian Section, 20 to the Uruguayan Section, 19 to the Peruvian Section, 15 to the Chilean Section, 16 to the Argentina Section, and 63 to the Philippines Section.

Another good achievement of our Section this year was the free distribution of the following Theosophical literature: 45,000 copies of the small Review *Dharma* with articles against alcohol, tobacco, meat, hunting, and bull fights, 10,000 leaflets on *Righteousness as daily conduct*. 36,000 pamphlets were also freely distributed by Brother Franco Herrera G. (Fiat-Lux Lodge, Pachuca) and 5,000 *To Those Who Mourn* to be sold cheaply.

Mr. Pavri's *Theosophy Explained*, a 600 page book which we consider the best Theosophical "Dictionary" for the

Spanish-speaking Christian countries, and which had been very carefully translated years ago by the present writer, is now in the press.

**Statistics.**—There are in this Section 25 Lodges, 5 Centres and 484 active members.

Mrs. Fidela F. de Marañón, of *Apolonio de Tyana* Lodge, made

a donation to the Theosophical Society of a tract of land at the Port of Veracruz. As one of the permanent homes of the Society in that city, a house is being erected the second floor of which will be used for Lodge and other meetings.

ADOLFO DE LA PEÑA GIL,  
*General Secretary.*

## CANADA

The year 1952-3 has been uneventful. Our membership remains the same taking into consideration that our Financial Year closes the end of June. There were five deaths in the Section to record.

We have several small Lodges scattered throughout the Dominion which remain more or less static, but those in the larger cities such as Toronto, Hamilton and Montreal are thriving and very active.

New subscribers to *The Canadian Theosophist* continue to increase and its appeal to readers is most gratifying.

Our routine regular visiting speakers, Mr. Ernest Wood and Dr. Alvin

Kuhn continue to draw good audiences and attract considerable public attention. The vast distance to our outlying Lodges is detrimental to our efforts to help them by such lecturers, and by our personal appearance; but all of them are doing their best to help the good work by group discussions and classes on *The Secret Doctrine*, *The Mahatma Letters*, etc.

On the whole and taking into consideration the general outlook I consider that Theosophy in Canada holds great hope for the future.

E. L. THOMSON,  
*General Secretary.*

## ARGENTINA

Our Section continues to grow in number of members, as well as in the number of Lodges, every year. Today we have 1525 members, or 116 more than last year. The Lodges number 65, and we have 8 Centres, in spite of having closed 4 Lodges. In their place we have created 4 new Lodges *Conocete a ti mismo*, *Paz y Armonia*, *Colaboracion* and *Loto Blanco*; we have asked for Charters for new Lodges *Jinarāja-dāsa* in Rosario, *Himalaya* in Rio Cuarto, and *Plenitud* in the town of Eva Peron. Other Lodges are in process of formation.

The Section is organizing the *Editorial Teosofica Argentina*, which has already published its first book: *Lecturas Populares de Teosofia* by Dr. Annie Besant. They have forwarded copies to all the Sections and to the Headquarters. Lodges in Rosario, as well as those in Mendoza, hold monthly meetings with very good results, strengthening the bonds of brotherhood and harmony, with great benefit to the diffusion of our ideals. We have enriched our possessions by two more properties in the city of San Fernando, an hour's railway journey from Buenos



Aires. In one of them is located Lodge *Lumen de Lumine*.

I have again been re-elected to the office of General Secretary for three more years. The Section Council now consists of the following Brothers: Mariano Calvo, Juan Denjean, Jose Kovacs, Federico Stanziola, Angel D. Bernal, Juan Ortner, Maria E. Turner, Antonio Barrot and Juan Denis; as Trustee Bro. Jose Duran.

In Mendoza a Theosophical Library has been founded, supported by all the local Lodges, which will give great impetus to the diffusion of Theosophy in the area.

The Argentine Theosophical Library, located in Buenos Aires, is arranging monthly artistic performances of little plays of short duration and for few actors, written by members of the Theosophical Society, as a contribution to the popularizing of Theosophical

teachings, with very good results. This Library, directed by the General Secretary, contains more than 11,000 volumes dealing with its special subjects. There are some 600 members who subscribe.

The Review *Evolucion*, suspended for a year, will reappear shortly. Meanwhile the *Revista Teosofica Argentina*, the organ of the Section, continues to appear every three months. The Review *El Teosofista*, being a reproduction in Spanish of *The Theosophist*, also is issued every three or four months.

All the Lodges of the country paid homage to the memory of our dear and great Brother Jinarājadāsa, in their recorded minutes, appreciating the work he has done to spread Theosophy throughout the world.

JOSE M. OLIVARES,  
General Secretary.

## CHILE

The Chilean Section carried on its activities during the year through 8 Lodges.

As a result of the visit to Chile of our Mexican Sister, Srta. Luz Maria Durand, 40 new members joined, reinforcing some of the Lodges in Valparaiso and forming two new ones in Santiago, one of them being *Amor* with 16 members, and the other *Servidores* with 9 members. There is also a project to form a Lodge to be named *Loto Blanco* in Valparaiso, but so far this has not been realized.

Lodge *Destellos* at Antofagasta had suspended activity due to deaths and the transfer of the greater number of its members, but it started anew in April of this year when 6 new members joined it as a result of the work of Srta. Luz Maria Durand.

The following commemorative meetings were held: Founders Day on

Nov. 17; White Lotus Day, May 8; Wesak, June 8; and a function to mark the passing of Brother C. Jinarājadāsa.

Other minor festivals have been celebrated, always with a good musical programme and discourses by members. Many of the public attend, so that our Hall, which holds 120 people, is filled to capacity on many occasions.

On April 4, 1953, the Chilean Section held its Annual General Convention, at which a new President of the Section was elected, as well as other members who co-operate with him in the administration. The following is the composition of the National Council:

President:  
(General Secretary) Bro. Luis Tapia Alarcón.  
Vice-President: Bro. Teodoro Belmar, of Santiago.  
Secretary: Bro. Leopoldo Salzmänn Rétes, Valparaiso.



Asst. Secretary: Sister Aída Carreno Correa, Valparaíso.

Treasurer: Sister Palmenia Madariaga de Kerner, Santiago.

Committee: Sister Aurora Cañas de Gatica, Valparaíso; Bro. Rogelio Reyes Mella, Valparaíso.

The National Council of the Chilean Section has held regular monthly meetings.

On the initiative of the General Secretary of the Peruvian Section, Bro. Jorge Torres Ugarriza, some of the Latin-American Sections, of which Chile is one, are publishing a "Quarterly Letter" of Theosophical information, which is being sent to all Spanish-speaking Sections.

At the end of March and the beginning of April this year we received a visit from Bro. Moisés Sevilla Moreno, of Argentina, who delivered a number of private and public lectures in Valparaíso and Santiago, before going on to Peru, to spread there also the knowledge of Theosophy.

On October 11 Bro. Heriberto Sibdenbyrg died. He was the last survivor of the group who founded Lodge *Lob-Nor*. A meeting in his memory was held on October 27, 1953.

A Course on "The Ancient Wisdom" is being carried on by means of subscriptions, to give a knowledge of the basic principles of Theosophy. An average of 40 people attend, who had previously manifested little interest in Theosophy, but now little by little their

prejudices are being overcome, and we hope that before long they will become members of the Society. Written lessons are distributed in instalments to the students, to avoid mistakes due to failure to understand. These lessons also serve as texts for study in study centres and Lodges of the Society in various cities of our country.

In the matter of statistics regarding this Section, there are 4 Lodges dissolved. The first of them *Osiris* we decided to declare dissolved because it has not been possible to regularize its work and some of its members have withdrawn, leaving it with less than 7 members, who did not meet during the year 1952-53.

With regard to Lodges *Arundhati*, *Maitreya* and *Ananda*, these have been dissolved, first, for not sending in any returns or paying the dues required, and secondly, because they have less than 7 members. The greater number of the members of Lodge *Arundhati* joined Lodge *Servidores*, at the invitation of Sister Aida Carreno Correa. Some of the members of the other two Lodges have joined them also, and active and progressive work is being done there.

The Chilean Section has 139 members, divided among ten Lodges, five of which are in Santiago, three in Valparaíso, one in Viña del Mar and one in Antofagasta.

LUIS TAPIA ALARCON,  
General Secretary.

## BRAZIL

**Headquarters.**—Work is going forward in the matter of acquiring our own Headquarters building. For this purpose we have acquired three small houses, each with its own land, and the price of Cr. \$360,000 is being met by three annual instalments of Cr. \$120,000

each. Plans for the building are being considered in collaboration with the City engineers. The Headquarters Construction Committee is composed of Sr. Gastao Sales, Sr. Armando Sales and Sra. H. Goulart Penteadó. There are three sub-committees, each with three

members, engaged in collecting money for the Headquarters building: (1) Sale of "Bricks" Dept. (2) Social Committee, which organizes monthly meetings with artistic performances given by members. There is also an Art Committee to arrange artistic performances, the performers being drawn especially from Lodge *Orfeus*. (3) A Committee dealing with lists of donors.

*Lodge Activities.*—We are glad to announce the formation of Lodge *Orfeus* in Sao Paulo, which will be especially dedicated to the Arts. All the City Lodges work harmoniously together, meeting together monthly and attracting sympathisers to our ideals. Elementary leaflets on Theosophy are distributed.

*Social Section.*—The usual Theosophical festivals were celebrated: Adyar Day, White Lotus Day, Founders Day. In addition, on January 1 we organized a special Brotherhood meeting at the home of "O Pensamento", at which we gathered together representatives of various religions, spiritualist movements and Masons. A special meeting was called to commemorate the passing of Brother C. Jinarājadāsa. Special reference was made to his three visits to Brazil.

Early in December 1952 the Brazilian Section extended hospitality to Senorita Luz Maria Durand, a distinguished member of the Mexican Section and a well-known journalist and Theosophist. She gave three magnificent lectures on Adyar, Evolution and Indian Customs, respectively. A reception was given her at the residence of the General Secretary, Sr. Armando Sales, where there was music, recitations and a meditation led by Senorita Luz. From Sao Paulo she went to Belo Horizonte, Salvador, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Porto Alegre and thence to Montevideo and Buenos Aires. In all the Brazilian cities she visited she lectured and increased the number of Lodge members.

Headquarters has received numerous visits from members of the provincial Lodges and members from abroad; members from Headquarters and the Sao Paulo Lodges have visited the other States of Brazil.

At the national elections held on October 31, 1952, Brother Armando Sales was again elected (General Secretary) President and a very old member, Brother Virgilio Goulart Penteado, was elected Vice-President.

By a majority vote of our National Section we supported Mr. N. Sri Ram as World President of the Theosophical Society.

*A Course in Theosophy* has been carried on by four of our older members in turn during the period October 1952 to August 1953. There was an average attendance of 30. It is proposed to arrange a more advanced course for next year, to be held at the Sao Paulo Lodge.

*Propaganda Department.*—To facilitate the spread of Theosophy in our country we have published a book under the title *Conduct and Meditation* which includes the following three small works: *At the Feet of the Master* by Alcyone, *Awake, Sons of Light* (anonymous), and *Meditation for Beginners* by Wedgwood, and a list of the monthly virtues. We have in addition published a new edition of *First Principles* by C. Jinarājadāsa, translated from the 8th Edition which contains the new chapter on Nature and Beauty. This is attracting many students of Theosophy and will aid the Lodges when drawing up their programme of studies. This Department also carries on extensive correspondence with members and sympathisers, as well as sending lecturers to tour the country and visit Lodges in the interior. In addition it distributes propaganda leaflets on Theosophy.

*Our official Magazine.*—Last year I appealed to members to support *O Teosofista*, our official organ, and

reviewed the financial difficulties confronting us in this matter. As they could not be entirely overcome we met our expenses by issuing the Review bi-monthly instead of monthly. Again I appeal for support and fresh subscriptions for at least a year. Paper for the Review was furnished by the General Secretary, Sr. Armando Sales.

**Membership.**—Again this year it is not possible for us to present an exact account of membership changes, since a large number of Lodges have not submitted their returns or have omitted the information when sending. For us to be able to present this information, it has been necessary to consider the returns of two earlier years, and that does not show a true result:

As far as we can ascertain the figures are:

Total membership in the previous year	...	829
Members joining during the year	...	134
Members rejoining or renewing activity	...	19 982
Members lapsed	...	71
Members resigned or lost	...	9
Members who have died	...	6 86
Total active members	...	896

ARMANDO SALES,  
*General Secretary.*

## BULGARIA

No Report

## ICELAND

The work in Iceland has been carried on in much the same manner as in preceding years. A new Lodge was founded in the northern part of the country, named *Well*, and now the Lodges are 8 in number.

I think the main event within the Section was the visit of Mr. Martinus, a Danish gentleman, who has his own system of thought, very similar to Theosophy. He claims to have obtained cosmic consciousness and is indeed a remarkable man. Some here in Iceland are very interested in his teachings.

The magazine of the Society *Gangleri* has been issued twice, as usual.

I was in charge of a study group named "The Black Rose" which is a symbolical name, once given to the most mystic school in ancient Persia.

The meetings of the Lodges here in Reykjavik have been well attended. Some new members have joined our ranks.

The Order of Service has been active.

I think I may mention that last summer I gave lectures in the pulpits of four churches in Iceland, not exactly on Theosophy, of course, but all very Theosophical in spirit. This is a good example of the freemindedness of Icelandic clergymen, and perhaps this could not have taken place in any other country than Iceland. On the whole the future is promising.

The number of members in this Section stands at 287, an increase of 44 over the previous year.

GRETAR FELLS,  
*General Secretary.*

## SPAIN

No Report

## PORTUGAL

The Lodges in this Section continued their normal work. Lodge *Koot Hoomi* has not had its meetings during this year because of some difficulties of its members, but it is *not* extinguished and we hope its activities will continue next year. We have a new Lodge *Dharma* at Oporto, which began its work with the regular attendance of 7 members. The situation of the other Lodges is more or less the same as last year and they continued all activities.

*Membership.*—We have now 234 members in 13 Lodges.

We have celebrated this year as usual the great Theosophical festivals—Foundation Day, Adyar Day and White Lotus Day. We had general meetings every fortnight to give to

all members a more intimate contact with the Theosophical teachings, under the form of questions and answers.

Mr. Felix Bermudes was elected General Secretary.

Many young members came into the Society, giving all their strength and enthusiasm to help the work and the Masters' service.

We regret that it was not possible for the Society in Portugal to be represented in the International or European Theosophical activities, on account of particular circumstances of the members.

Concerning the financial situation, the life of the Section goes on with many difficulties, but it has been possible to maintain a financial balance.

FELIX BERMUDES,

*General Secretary.*

## WALES

*Membership.*—During this period 17 new members were enrolled and one member was re-instated. There were 7 resignations, 2 deaths, 6 lapsed, and 3 transferred to other Sections. The gains were 18 and the losses 18. Our total membership is 178.

Though we have a number of new members each year there is no increase to report. The disappointing factor is the number of members who from year to year lapse because they do not maintain contact with Lodges or Headquarters. The other day I enrolled the 586th member of the Society in Wales, *i.e.*, since it received its

Charter in 1922. Some of the members—quite a number—have transferred to other Sections (England, Scotland, Australia, South Africa) and continue to be active members, but a larger number have apparently lost interest, resigned or lapsed. The number of those who lapse is generally speaking higher than those who resign. One wonders whether this applies to other Sections also, and whether it denotes a failure on our part to keep the interest of members.

Our *Annual Convention* was held in May at Colwyn Bay, North Wales with Mrs. Ransom as our guest of honour.



This gathering was very inspiring and greatly helped the *Cokwyn Bay Lodge* which was meeting various difficulties.

*Visitors to the Section.*—We continue to be grateful for the help of Lecturers from other Sections of the British Isles and Ireland.

*Young Theosophists.*—I am glad to be able to report the addition of several new members to this group. A new liaison officer has been appointed who is capable and enthusiastic—Miss Zoe Rhodes—a member of the *Cokwyn Bay Lodge*. She has learnt to speak and write the Welsh language since she came to live in Wales, and is in touch with Welsh organizations.

*Co-operation with other Organizations.*—There is, happily, much evidence in Wales of the growth of International Friendship, especially amongst the younger generation. The Welsh Committee of U.N.E.S.C.O. and the Association for Education in World Citizenship are doing most valuable work for the rising generation. We have had lectures from our platform from the South Wales Organizer of U.N.A. and the Chairman of the Association for Education in World Citizenship—lectures which were truly Theosophical. Members of the Cardiff Lodge continue to be active in the work of the British Council.

The International Musical Festival which has been held at Llangollen,

North Wales, for 7 years in succession is quite unique in character. 20 Nations were represented at this summer Festival—all young people—and it was visited by H. M. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh on the occasion of their Coronation visit to Wales.

*The National Council* met 3 times during the year.

The meetings of the *Council of the European Federation* were attended by the General Secretary and the National Treasurer.

*Headquarters Premises.*—Further repairs and decorations of our Headquarters building have been carried out and we have bought 50 chairs to add to the beauty and comfort of our lecture hall. We have now a piano and an organ in our hall—on loan.

*Conclusion.*—We still have not regained the ground lost during the war. Our great need still is for workers, who are free and able to lecture, to concentrate on areas in which activity lapsed during the war years. In a country like Wales—small though it is—with its motto of: "Y Gwir Yn erby Y byd" (The Truth against the World) which has come down to us from very ancient times, there should be greater and wider appreciation of THEOSOPHY and its Message.

E. CLAUDIA OWEN,

General Secretary.

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## POLAND

No Report

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## URUGUAY

On 29th August the 27th Annual Convention was held with a numerous assembly of members and visitors. Homage was rendered to the

memory of Mr. Jinārjadāsa by a talk on the work which he had done for the Society and by repeating the words of the Master K.H.: "The Chiefs desire



a Universal Brotherhood of Humanity; the starting of a real Universal Brotherhood; an institution that will be known throughout the world and will attract the attention of the highest minds."

**Membership.**—During the year 24 new members have joined, 23 have resigned and 1 has died. The total membership is now 78. One new Lodge has been formed which has been named *Lodge Blavatsky*, bringing the number to 7 Lodges.

**Theosophical Work.**—All the Lodges have been working regularly at the Salon Social, taking up and studying subjects dealing with Theosophy, Art, Science and other matters of general interest. In February we had a visit from Miss Luz Maria Durand, who gave several lectures at Headquarters

and in public halls, attracting a large audience. Also Mr. Mario Radaelli gave some lectures at the Ateneo on Theosophical subjects and, being an artist, held an exhibition of pictures which attracted much attention.

**Library.**—The Library has had a regular attendance of members and associates; some additions have been made both of new books and of new editions of others.

**Young Theosophists.**—An attempt is being made to form a Young Theosophists' Group, but this has not yet crystallized; we hope that this will be realized in time.

The festivals of the Society were all suitably celebrated.

ENRIQUE F. MOLINA,

*General Secretary.*

## PUERTO RICO

We have had an increase of six members. Two have died and one resigned, leaving a total of 99 members.

We are progressing slowly but surely.

We celebrated our Annual Convention in April. It was very successful for 70 members attended, the largest number we have had for a long time. As usual, we prepared a vegetarian lunch and all visitors stayed all day with us and we enjoyed a very delightful and fraternal day. We discussed affairs concerning the Lodge work and made plans for the coming year to do more successful work for the Society.

We are giving a Radio Program every Sunday morning at 9.30—10. This is divided into two parts, one for a lady and the other for a man so as to break the monotony of the voice. In the first part we give a program prepared in Olcott, Wheaton, translated into Spanish. The course contains 52 radio talks and is very good. For the other 15 minutes selections of a

devotional type are given. We intend to print all the whole set of programs in Spanish to help the Spanish-speaking Sections in their work if they desire to use them.

*The Herald* still continues in mimeograph. It is doing good work. We translate the best articles from all the magazines for the benefit of those Spanish Sections which do not read English. We send it free of charge all over South and Central America and Mexico.

Mr. Augusto Plard, our former General Secretary, still continues his work. He gives lectures on different subjects every Sunday morning. This year he has given a series on *A Study in Consciousness* and another on *Yoga*, both books by Annie Besant.

We have had the privilege of having with us Dr. Eduardo Alfonso from Madrid, Spain. Besides being Doctor of Medicine, he is a Theosophist and a fine lecturer. He has been touring in

South America for the last five years, and has also visited Central America, Mexico and Cuba. He is giving a series of lectures in our Sectional building and is attracting crowds of people to hear him, which is fine propaganda for the Society.

We are in need of more Spanish Lecturers. I am sure we would do much better if we had more of them coming oftener. The result could be seen when Senorita Durand came last year.

We have celebrated all the special festivals of the Society and also contributed to the Adyar Fund, the A.B.C.

Fund and now we are collecting for Brother Raja's Fund as suggested by our President Mr. Sri Ram.

The attendance at public meetings shows that the world is anxious for information and is trying to investigate. Some people grasp the ideas at once, others are not yet prepared, but we have to keep on planting, that is our work. Gradually the dogmas of religions will be overcome and the barriers between them and Theosophy will be broken down and thus the work for a better world will be started.

ESPERANZA C. HOPGOOD,

*General Secretary.*

## RUMANIA

No Report

## YUGOSLAVIA

No Report

## GREECE

## CEYLON

The year under review has been one of intense activity for our members. Many changes have occurred during this period, including the formation of a new Lodge named the *Besant Lodge*. There has also been added a third Lodge called the *Olcott Lodge* of which one of our long-standing members, Mr. D. L. F. Pedris is the President. This Lodge is situated at No. 104 Barnes Place, Colombo, for the convenience of the student members who form the majority in this Lodge. It was inaugurated on Foundation Day, 17th November 1953.

During the course of the year we had the privilege of listening to lectures from many leading Theosophical work-

ers who passed through Colombo, including our new President Mr. N. Sri Ram and Mrs. Bhagirathi Sri Ram, Mr. Odo A. Barry, Mr. M. Subramaniam, Mr. Geoffrey Hodson and Miss Emma Hunt.

The visits of the President and Mrs. Sri Ram and Mr. M. Subramaniam marked the beginning of a remarkable revival in the activities of our Lodges and of the Society in general throughout the Island. The President was accorded a Civic Reception by the Mayor and Members of the Municipal Council of Colombo, and he delivered a number of addresses at the Town Hall, Central Y.M.C.A., and Besant Hall (at a reception accorded to him by

the members of the various Lodges) and also a broadcast talk over the Radio.

Mr. M. Subramaniam followed up the revival thus initiated by the President, and in the course of a tour through some of the principal cities of Ceylon delivered no less than 40 lectures and talks during a period of a little over two months. We wish to place on record our grateful thanks for his untiring efforts to promote the work of the Society in Ceylon. As a result of his visit one new Lodge has been inaugurated in the Galle District named *Shanti Lodge*, and one in Colombo.

There is every possibility of three more Lodges being formed in the near future and it is confidently hoped that the President's wish for reviving the Section will thus be fulfilled.

An event of great interest to all our members and their friends who attended it was the whole-day Convention held at Sri Palee Institute, Horana, on the 27th of September, when more than 60 persons, including some children,

participated in the proceedings. The Presidential Agent, Mr. N. K. Choksy, welcomed the delegates and at the end of an interesting day's proceedings the students of the Sri Palee Institute staged an entertainment which was much appreciated by all present on that occasion. Thirteen new members were enrolled during the course of the Convention. It has been decided to hold such Conventions annually and our thanks are due to all those who helped in making a success of this year's event.

A further indication of the keen interest which members of our Lodges are taking in all the activities of the Society is seen in the considerable number of those members and their friends who have registered their names for the Annual International Convention at Adyar this December.

The number of Lodges on September 30, 1953 was 2, with 64 members.

N. K. CHOKSY,  
Presidential Agent,

## GREECE

Although in the previous year two Lodges, *Orpheus* and *Light*, were dissolved, the work of the Greek Section continued regularly during the period.

A new Lodge under the name of *Agapi* (Love) was established in Kalamata. The old Lodge *Erevna* (Search) in Patras resumed its operations.

The Lodge *Blavatsky-Olcott*, totalling ten members, which was directly attached to Adyar, rejoined the Greek National Section to the great satisfaction of all. Consequently the number of the Lodges in the Greek Section is now seven and of members 199.

Our Library operates regularly and our journal *Theosophical Deltion* is being published quarterly.

During the Convention on February 9th, 1953, Brother K. Prinaris who was

General Secretary since 1929 was made a Life Honorary Past General Secretary and Brother K. Melissaropoulos was elected General Secretary. White Lotus Day was commemorated with enthusiasm and great success. On the 17th November 1953, the 78th anniversary of the establishment of the Theosophical Society was celebrated and a Public Lecture delivered by the General Secretary in the biggest Lecture Hall of Athens.

We hope that the Greek Section will continue its work of cultivating and disseminating the Theosophical principles, amongst which the idea of Universal Brotherhood comes first.

KOSTIS MELISSAROPOULOS,  
General Secretary.

## CENTRAL AMERICA

During the last year of my period as General Secretary of the Central American Section, a Lodge, *Lodge Gnosis* of Guatemala, which was almost on the point of dissolving, was revived with ten members and is working with a devoted leadership.

*Lodge Shakti* of Costa Rica, which formerly was a Youth Lodge, has transformed itself into a regular Lodge with ten members. They are all now over 30 years of age. It has not been found possible to reorganize *Lodge Sino* of Alajuela, Costa Rica, but we have not yet withdrawn their Charter. We have had this year 13 people joining the Society. *Lodge Virya*, San

José, Costa Rica, consists of 34 members who form a truly determined group much consecrated to service. This group was formed for persons, nearly all of them, of high preparedness and truly devoted to our cause.

Our great and constant endeavour has been to spread reverence towards the Divine Spirit in every human heart. Three circulars have been sent out to the Lodges of Central America making suggestions to carry on the work with greater success.

The number of Lodges stands at 10 with 148 members.

AMALIA DE SOTELA,

*General Secretary.*

## PARAGUAY

No Report

## PERU

No Report

## PHILIPPINES

With the object of revitalizing the Lodges, visits were made by the General Secretary and some appointed National Lecturers to the different Lodges in Manila and the two Lodges in the province of Nueva Ecija. During these visits, the importance and significance of Lodge work was stressed and Theosophical lectures were delivered.

A Symposium on Religion was held for twelve Sundays from March 22 to June 14. A representative of a religious sect or denomination spoke on each Sunday for about an hour, after

which he answered questions from the audience. The theme of the Symposium was the personal reason or reasons why one has accepted a given religion. The following religious organizations existing in the Philippines were represented in the Symposium: Roman Catholic Church, Philippine Independent Church, Liberal Catholic Church, Methodist Church, Philippine Episcopal Church, Seventh Day Adventist, Jehovah's Witnesses, Salvation Army, Buddhists, Spiritualists and Freethinkers. The most important result of this Symposium was



the realization of the various religious groups that the Theosophical Society is the forum of all religions.

After the Symposium, public lectures were given in the National Headquarters from 4.30 to 6.00 P. M. on the second, third and fourth Sundays of each month. Mrs. Dominga L. Reyes spoke on *The Eternal Life, From Sin to Love*, and *Knowledge, Love and Wisdom*. Dr. Juliana C. Pineda talked on *The World Mother*. The General Secretary gave a series of lectures on the *Philosophy of Desirelessness* and the *Philosophy of Discrimination*. It is believed that these lectures were largely responsible for attracting the new members.

Monthly inter-Lodge meetings were held on the first Sunday of each month since February, each meeting being sponsored by one or two Lodges jointly. The meetings were held in the National Headquarters or in the meeting place of the Lodge that sponsored the meeting.

Since February 8, a Study Class on Elementary Theosophy has been conducted every Sunday in the National

Headquarters. Sr. Francisco T. Escudero has been ably directing this class.

The General Secretary has also been conducting a class on the Occult Interpretation of the Bible every third and fourth Sunday of each month since June.

White Lotus Day and the Wesak Festival were fittingly celebrated with meditation meetings on May 8 and May 29, respectively.

With the help of some earnest young members, we were able to revive the publication of our official organ, *The Lotus*, which we shall endeavour to publish monthly.

The number of Lodges stands at 13, with 159 members. Last year we reported 315 members and 14 Lodges. This large reduction in number of members is due to the fact that during the year under review the many inactive members included in last year's statistics were removed from the rolls.

The General Secretary is at present the Chairman of the Philosophy Department of the Far Eastern University in Manila.

BENITO F. REYES,  
General Secretary.

## COLOMBIA

The following new Lodges were formed in the city of Caracas, Venezuela:

<i>Blavatsky</i>	... November 1952
<i>Heracles</i>	... January 22, 1953
<i>Amor</i>	... April 24, 1953
<i>Fraternidad</i>	... April 27, 1953
<i>Pitagoras</i>	... May 30, 1953
<i>Vargas</i>	... June 7, 1953

The number of active Lodges in this Section including those in Venezuela increased from 9, as reported last year, to 18. Six new Lodges were formed and three became active again.

The total number of active members increased from 107 last year to 184.

Of this increase 46 are new admissions and 24 readmissions.

*Publications.*—We have discontinued the publication of our magazine *Revista Teosofica Colombiana* and instead of it we are publishing now a 32-page pamphlet every two or three months for distribution to our Lodges. During the year covered by this report four pamphlets have been issued.

CORINA MARTINEZ S.,  
General Secretary.

On September 23, 1953 the seven Lodges in Venezuela formed the Theosophical Society in Venezuela, the fifty-first Section to be chartered by the Theosophical Society.



## BRITISH EAST AFRICA

During the year under report the Society maintained its efforts to spread the message of Theosophy in East Africa, covering Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Zanzibar and Pemba.

*Adyar.*—On behalf of the members of the Theosophical Society in East Africa, I take this opportunity to send our loving and loyal greetings to the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, for his unceasing labours and his splendid service for the cause of Theosophy and for the helping of humanity throughout the world.

*Membership.*—We had 229 members on the rolls on 1st October, 1952. There were 35 admissions and 5 resignations, bringing the membership on the rolls as on 30th September 1953 to 259, showing an increase of 30.

*Lodges.*—A new Lodge was formed in Kampala (Uganda) and we have now 4 in Kenya, 2 in Uganda, 2 in Tanganyika, 1 in Zanzibar, and 1 in Pemba, and there are signs of the formation of a fifth Lodge in Kenya at Mombasa. Thus we have at present 10 Lodges in the East African Section.

*Annual Convention.*—Our last Convention was held at Zanzibar on 3rd April, 1953. It was a happy and very successful Convention. Delegates came from Nairobi, Mombasa, Dar-Es-Salaam and Pemba, and it was marked by the unusually large attendance of the local members and sympathisers. A most friendly and enthusiastic spirit was manifested, and departing members said that they wished it could begin all over again. Our honorary President was Mr. Dwarkadas Morarji Shah, who after a befitting speech, requested Mr. Harjivan Kalidas Mehta of Bhavnagar, specially invited to preside over this Convention, to take the chair and conduct the affairs of the Convention. This he did splendidly well. He called on all present so to conduct

themselves that the illumination and blessings of the Elder Brethren might give inspiration to the work. During all the three days of the Convention he urged the necessity of a united effort to bring the teachings of Theosophy to help solve East African as well as world problems. The presence of Mr. Harjivan Kalidas Mehta sustained the Convention activities with lively interest, and there was a fine strong note and evidence of renewed confidence.

A Question and Answer meeting was held and provided an interesting and instructive period. At night a Social Gathering was held and a pleasant time was spent with music, dance and dialogues. Thus a happy Convention was brought to a close.

*Lecture Tour in East Africa.*—Immediately after the business of the Convention was over, our guest of honour Mr. Harjivan Kalidas Mehta, accompanied by our retiring General Secretary, Mr. Dwarkadas M. Shah and Mrs. Dwarkadas M. Shah, started on an East Africa lecture tour. At all important places where we have our Lodges they tried their best to create interest in the Society's work among the members by special Lodge meetings, personal talks and friendly discussions, and also took opportunity by public lectures to spread the message of Theosophy among the Europeans, Asians and Africans. Mr. Mehta gave addresses to Rotary Clubs, Sport clubs, Students and Teachers Associations, Social clubs and women's organisations and also spoke on Indian life and Indian womanhood.

During the tour Mr. Harjivan Kalidas Mehta travelled 7000 miles by boat, railway, aeroplanes and motorcars. He gave public lectures, about 90 in Gujarati and about 19 in English. At Lodge meetings and evening parties he gave 92 short but very instructive talks. Two dormant Lodges were revived

by enlisting the co-operation of the old members. A new centre was opened at Kampala, which did good spade work towards the later successful formation of a Lodge, *The Nile Lodge*, with 12 members on the roll.

During the tour, Mr. Harjivan Kalidas Mehta paid visits to Prisons, Leper Hospitals, Mental Hospitals, Nursery Schools, Gymnasiums, Asian, African and European Hospitals, and indirectly by a note of love and brotherhood explained that the greatest need now was universal brotherhood, which is the cardinal principle of our Society.

Thus during his stay in East Africa from 1st February to 7th May 1953—for full three months—he made every attempt to strengthen the Section, and intensify the spread of Theosophical teachings throughout the length and breadth of East Africa by presenting Theosophy in newer and simple ways suited to present-day requirements. In Zanzibar and Pemba he conducted study classes.

*Overseas Visitors.*—During the year we welcomed Mr. I. Petelin from Australia, Mr. and Mrs. Coats from London, Dr. Yagnik from India, Mr. A. B. Purani from Pondicherry and others.

## PAKISTAN

The work of the six Lodges and one Centre in Pakistan has continued smoothly during the year under report.

Together with Theosophists everywhere, our members have shared the loss of the passing away during the year of our ex-President Mr. C. Jinārājādāsa. Special memorial meetings in his memory were held at the Lodges in Karachi, Hyderabad and Quetta.

The Karachi Lodge lost, during the year, its oldest and founding member Mr. D. P. Kotwal at the age of 87 years. Mr. Kotwal was one of the few recently living members who had met the

Mr. and Mrs. Coats, both International Lecturers, gave talks in all the Lodges, and by their visit the Section was greatly benefitted.

*The President's passing.*—On receipt of the sorrowful news of the passing of our President, Mr. C. Jinārājādāsa, special meetings in all Lodges in East Africa were held, and members present offered prayers with a stream of love and reverence for a great server and a great teacher in the cause of international friendship and brotherhood. Messages were sent to Adyar Headquarters in words befitting the sorrowful event.

*Publicity Work.*—Owing to the necessity for economy the publication of the National Magazine *Saurabh* has been temporarily postponed. Special advertising in newspapers, distribution of small Theosophical pamphlets and booklets, and the visits of well-known Theosophists like our present President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, Mr. and Mrs. Rohit Mehta and Mr. Harjivan K. Mehta, have yielded considerable advantage and benefit to the Section.

V. H. KAPADIA,  
General Secretary.

Founder, Madame Blavatsky, personally. He devoted his entire life to the work of the Theosophical Society and hundreds of members have been inspired and guided by him in Theosophical work.

The work of the Karachi Lodge continues to be the mainstay of Theosophical work in Pakistan. The Lodge this year showed an increase of 13 members. Its activities are well organized and responded to both by members and the public. The Lodge is collecting funds to renovate its premises with a view to improving its public Lecture Hall,

enlarging its Library and Reading Room, and adding a Members Room and Secretary's Office to the premises. The Lodge has collected over Rs. 43,000/- for the purpose but still needs many thousands more to reach the target of Rs. 70,000/-. Besides its varied activities, members of the Lodge are busy with work of Social Service in different fields in the City. The Lodge is also giving strong support to the work of the United Nations Association in Pakistan. Recently it was invited to participate in a Seminar on "Teaching about the United Nations" and sent six delegates to the same.

The work of the other Lodges has continued steadily, although under most difficult circumstances. The work in Pakistan particularly causes anxiety as

old workers are passing away. Lecturers and Lodge organizers are badly needed in Pakistan.

During the year under report, the Section was visited by Srimati Rukmini Devi, Miss Helen Zahara and Mr. J. B. S. Coats. These visits have greatly helped the work of the Lodges in Karachi and Hyderabad.

The Presidential Agent also visited Quetta during the year and paid two visits to Hyderabad. Due to the long distance and heavy expenses involved, a visit to East Pakistan has not yet been undertaken.

The total membership on 30th September 1953 was 312.

G. K. MINWALLA,  
*Presidential Agent.*

## MALAYA AND SINGAPORE

No Report

## NORTHERN IRELAND

The Theosophical Society in Northern Ireland has done a useful year's work. Meetings were held regularly at Headquarters in Belfast and also in the Knock suburb of the city and at Bangor, Coleraine and Whitehouse. Coleraine Lodge held meetings in the towns of Portrush and Portstewart as well as in Coleraine. Belfast members also visited isolated members in Londonderry and Ballycastle and kept up correspondence with other outlying members. The distribution of our population, in one large city and a number of very small towns, makes it hard to form groups outside Belfast.

Visiting lecturers included Mrs. Berry, Mrs. Groves, Captain H.W. Muirson Blake, Mrs. Law, Mrs. Hornidge, Mr. U. G. Krishnamurti and Miss

Blanch. All our visitors made valuable contributions to our work, and many of them placed us under a deep debt of gratitude by coming to visit us at their own expense.

There has been a downward trend in membership, arising from a number of coinciding circumstances—deaths, removals, the demands of home life, the fact that a number of those who joined when membership rose some years ago have probably reached "saturation point", and a low intake of new members. But the heart of our work seems quite healthy and we are more fortunate than many places in our workers and in the high proportion of members willing to undertake some degree of responsibility. In an area where the scattered nature of the

membership makes it necessary for groups to meet often in private houses, we are blessed also with some very kind and generous hostesses.

At our annual Convention in May, 1953, with the President's approval, advantage was taken of the new Rule 35 (b) of the International rules to transform the Theosophical Society in

Northern Ireland from a Presidential Agency to a Federation. Dr. Shearman, formerly Presidential Agent, was elected Organizing Secretary of the new Federation, and Mr. Alfred Hoy was re-elected Treasurer.

HUGH SHEARMAN,  
*Organizing Secretary.*

### VIET-NAM

In April we organized a Meeting of all religious sects (except the Catholic) at the Headquarters of the Theosophical Society, to listen to addresses by various people belonging to the different sects, on a single subject: "Ought one to see life through rose-coloured spectacles or black?" The following six sects participated:

1. Northern Buddhism (Mahayana)
2. Southern Buddhism (Hinayana)
3. Association of Women Buddhists
4. Caodaistes
5. Buddhists practising at home (Tonh-do-Cu-si)
6. Buddhism Renewed (Tam Tong Mieu).

We took advantage of this meeting to distribute free copies of seven books on Theosophy:

1. The Path leading to the Masters
2. The Existence of the Masters and the physical bodies of the Masters
3. The 'Shadow' of the Buddha
4. Probation and Acceptance
5. Advice from the Master
6. Theosophy
7. At the Feet of the Master

Extracts  
from the  
book *The  
Masters  
and the  
Path*

We have organized a lending Library and a Lecture Hall at the Headquarters of the Society. They are open to the public each day, except on Mondays, from 8 to 12 in the morning.

We first of all instituted a "Weekly Talk", but these meetings were not a success, because the Headquarters is too far away from the centre of the town of Saigon (5 kilometres). We therefore replaced the weekly talk by a monthly one. Now the public which come is much more numerous, thanks partly to the announcements in the daily papers.

We have sent out each month to each of our members a bulletin containing a Theosophical course; this has been replaced now by a Review entitled *Dao Hoc*, which means "The Path which leads to the Truth". This Review was issued on October 15, 1953 with an edition of 3,000 copies.

We have carried out intensive propaganda in the local press, endeavouring to create the maximum sale possible of the Theosophical books in Vietnamese mentioned above, selling them in the bookshops and in the home. As a result we have been able to distribute a large number of copies this year, either by sale, or by free distribution.

**Membership.**—In this year the number of members has been increased by 57, which brings the total number to 268.



*Work in the Branches.*—Meetings are held regularly, once a week in some Lodges, or twice a week in others. The Lodge *An Giang* at Chaudoc has done good work; three of its members have just finished commentaries on *At the Feet of the Master*. The work they have done can be very useful to a great number of readers less instructed than themselves, who, without this, would not be able to grasp the sense and the beauty of the teachings of this little book which is of such high spiritual value.

In addition to the activities mentioned above, we have already constructed an orphanage, which will be inaugurated during the course of this month. At the outset we shall com-

mence by receiving ten babies who have been abandoned, to bring them up until they attain their majority. Afterwards we shall continue to receive others, each time in groups of ten, according to the measure of our material possibilities.

Since our country is now going through a very difficult time it is not possible to carry out as active propaganda for Theosophy as we would have liked to do. Nevertheless, we work like the bees; we gather material during the light, and make honey in the dark. We progress definitely, though by small steps.

PHAM-NGOC-DA,

General Secretary.

## STATE OF ISRAEL

Although we had a very difficult year one Lodge has been established here. A second one, the *Israel Lodge*, will be established in the very near future. Meetings of all members are rare owing to transport and communication difficulties.

From time to time visits to immigration camps are being made by the Presidential Agent and his wife, where some social work is done.

The circulation of Theosophical books from the limited number we have received from the Theosophical Society in Europe has been relatively active. We need more English textbooks to carry out the work of spreading Theosophy with greater strength.

A Committee of four members has been charged with the translation into Hebrew of *The Key to Theosophy* by H. P. Blavatsky, and *The Ancient Wisdom*, by Annie Besant.

The re-establishment of "The Association of Hebrew Theosophists" under the new style of "International

Association of Hebrew Theosophists" has also been decided, the situation being cleared up, and its objects defined, viz.:

(a) To raise funds from members and sympathizers to complete the erection of the Synagogue in Adyar. The requested funds should be directly forwarded to Headquarters, Adyar, under the heading "Synagogue Funds".

(b) To supply to the Adyar Library Hebrew books in English, French and Hebrew on Jewish religion, mysticism and occultism.

(c) To invite members and sympathizers to make a comparative study of the same with Theosophy and world religions.

The number of members in Israel stands at 19.

It is our hope to form a National Society as soon as the seven Lodges are established in Israel.

I. S. COHEN,

Presidential Agent.

## JAPAN

No Report

## VENEZUELA

In September 1953 the Lodges in Venezuela became the fifty-first Section to be chartered by the Theosophical Society. Prior to that time, the work in this country was under the direction of the Theosophical Society in Colombia. With the co-operation of the Colombian Section and through the efforts of members in Venezuela, new Lodges have been organized this year bringing the total to the seven necessary for the formation of a Section. These seven

Lodges are: *H. P. Blavatsky, Heracles, Nueve Circle, Amor, Fraternidad, Pitagoras* and *Vargas*. The Section Charter was dated 23rd September, 1953.

At the meeting held on October 4, Señor Pablo Bonilla T. was elected General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Venezuela.

The number of members in this new Section is 49.

## CANADIAN FEDERATION

The Canadian Federation again reports an increased membership during the past year, although we have lost two old and valuable members in the passing of Mr. L. D. Chesman of Victoria and Mrs. E. Marshallsay of Vancouver. We have the pleasure of welcoming a new Lodge, *H.P.B.* Lodge of Toronto, Ontario, which has very recently become a member of the Canadian Federation. Practically all Lodges have had new members during the past year, and while some of the Lodges are having difficulty in finding places to hold their meetings, this has not prevented them from going ahead. *Lotus* Lodge, Calgary, has been endeavouring to persuade its local radio station to broadcast Theosophy, but up to date has not been successful. However they are not dismayed and are working to attain this end in the spring of 1954.

In November 1952, Mr. Seymour Ballard, lecturer for the Theosophical

Society in America, visited both Vancouver and Victoria Lodges giving public lectures and talks to members which were much appreciated. In March 1953, Mrs. Edith Latimer of Blaine, Washington, visited the Lodges in Calgary, Edmonton and Winnipeg lecturing to members' meetings and to the public. This was much appreciated and it is hoped that it will again be possible for her to visit them at a future date. We at the Pacific Coast were also fortunate enough to have a visit from our old friend Mr. Fritz Kunz who addressed members' meetings in both Vancouver and Victoria.

The highlight of the year was the visit of Mr. Geoffrey Hodson who visited the Lodges in Vancouver and Victoria giving a public lecture in each place. Owing to the shortness of time it was not possible to have members' meetings, although opportunity was afforded to as many members as possible to meet him. We sincerely hope

that it will be possible for Mr. Hodson to return at a future date for another visit.

One change has taken place in the Federation Officers in that Mr. John P. Barnes has taken over the editorship of the *Federation Quarterly* and our sincere thanks have been offered to

our late editor, Mr. H. J. Barney for his long and faithful work in that office.

With the addition of a new Lodge to our ranks and some new study groups in the offing we hope to be able to report continued progress for the future.

JOAN S. MORRIS,  
General Secretary.

## EUROPEAN FEDERATION

On the whole 1952-1953 has been a very fruitful year.

The outstanding feature has been the European Congress in Italy which, after a great many difficulties, finally took place at Montecatini.

The Congress was attended by 376 delegates from 22 countries and presided over by Mr. C. Jinarājadāsa—one of his last official functions as President. Our new President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, after concluding a successful lecture tour in most European countries, was also present and gave two fine lectures.

The Mayor of Montecatini welcomed the Congress with an enthusiastic address, while a delightful concert was offered to the delegates by the town authorities.

Once more the value of holding Congresses in various parts of Europe has been fully proved. It not only allows the delegates to come much nearer to the countries themselves, their people and their uniqueness, but offers also a splendid opportunity to meet many members from other parts of Europe; in this case especially our Italian brethren, their General Secretary, Dr. Gasco and his wife, Signor and Signora Hack and many old friends. For those who were present, the beauty of Italy's culture in late Mediaeval and early Renaissance times left an unforgettable impression.

It was a great pleasure to be able to welcome to the Congress, amongst

others, the General Secretary of Iceland, Mr. Gretar Fells and his wife, and members from Yugoslavia and from Pakistan.

The Congress coincided with the Golden Jubilee of the Italian Section and with Mr. Jinarājadāsa's own Jubilee, completing his 50 years as a Theosophical lecturer, which he began in Rome in 1902.

During the Congress 3 sessions of the European Council were held. Amongst many other points special attention was given to the work in Germany and Austria, to *Adyar*, the Regional Periodical in the German language and to the publishing of literature, also in German, now centralised in the Regional Publishing House in Graz, with Dr. Lauppert in charge.

*Theosophy in Action*, thanks to the untiring work of Mrs. Adelaide Gardner and her staff, enjoys an increasing popularity and is much appreciated outside Europe. Europe itself, however, gives only minimum support.

A good solution for a much needed Regional Periodical in the French language has still to be found.

The close contact existing already with the Young Theosophists in Europe was further strengthened by co-opting to the European Council 4 Young Theosophists instead of two, one for each Region. This happy co-operation also ensures a continuity in our work,

when older members retire from their present offices.

Mr. A. Raven, the General Secretary of the Young Theosophists in Europe, has been elected Treasurer of the Federation.

To the 3 existing Regional Groups—the British and Irish, the French and the German-speaking Groups—has been added a Scandinavian Group, the General Secretary of the European Federation being the official link between these Groups and the Federation.

The influence already going out from regional activities, though still in process of developing, is far greater than could be expected when this work was started a few years ago.

During the year Srimati Rukmini Devi paid a short visit to some European countries. Mr. C. Jinarājadāsa, after the Congress and before sailing home, visited several Lodges in Italy and southern France.

Both Miss Serge Brisy and Mr. Axel von Fielitz-Coniar lectured in Switzerland. Mr. Schleifer also lectured in Basel and Zürich.

Mr. U. G. Krishnamurti visited England and Belgium and attended the German Summer School at Rendsburg in July.

The General Secretary of the European Federation visited Great Britain and Northern Ireland in March this year. He further attended the German Summer School in 1952, which coincided with the Golden Jubilee of the German Section and, together with Mr. N. Sri Ram, visited Gammel Praestegaard in Denmark. He pre-

sided over the Regional Meeting of German-speaking Sections in Basel last April and attended the Dutch Convention which was held this year in June at the Huizen Centre.

The Paris Office, at 4 Square Rapp, has been discontinued as the French Section needed the room itself, much of its work now being placed in the hands of the French-speaking Regional Group.

The European Library is now well organized and under the care of the Netherlands General Secretary, Prof. van der Ley, to whom we owe a great gratitude for the work he has done.

The Adyar Jubilee Film is still being shown in various European Sections and given the largest possible circulation.

It is, of course, not possible to thank all for their continual help and the friendship one constantly receives. I would like to make exception, however, and mention the Treasurer, Mr. Raven, the Assistant General Secretary, Mlle. Mallet and both my trusted old friends Mr. Jan Kruisbeer and Mrs. Adelaide Gardner.

During the year under review the Theosophical Society in Europe celebrated its Golden Jubilee, closing a period of 50 years of work.

We may, I think, look back to the past with gratitude to those who came before and perhaps also with some pride for what has been achieved, but in doing so we can only feel our own responsibility becoming greater.

J. E. VAN DISSEL,

General Secretary.



## THE WORLD FEDERATION OF YOUNG THEOSOPHISTS

The Annual Meeting was held in Adyar during the International Convention of the Theosophical Society in December 1952. Srimati Rukmini Devi presided over the small gathering of Young Theosophists.

Srimati Rukmini Devi was unanimously elected as President of the Federation for the next three years, by the ballot which had been circulated to the Youth Groups of the World Federation previously.

Srimati Rukmini Devi's birthday was celebrated on 27th February.

*Membership.*—To date our rolls stand at a total of 27 countries in the world where Young Theosophists are affiliated with the World Federation.

Our special thanks go to Milton Thornton, who has been an active member of the Young Theosophists for the past 20 years and who has now joined the senior ranks as President of the H.P.B. Lodge in Auckland, New Zealand.

*The Work* is slowly but surely growing. In Italy this year the Young Theosophists have officially constituted themselves, and it is hoped that they will be able to create a strong band of members in that country soon. Good tidings come from England, where a number of Young Theosophists are making great efforts to take up the work in that country again after a few years of general inactivity. It is a good sign that it comes as a desire of the young people themselves to start afresh. Interest and activity is again on the increase in the United States of America and the group there, though living in different parts of the U.S., are closely knit through their common effort, *Youth and Brotherhood*, their own magazine.

Last year a group in Indonesia joined the ranks of the World Federation.

Recently a letter came from Argentina where, due to difficulties in the

country, the group of Young Theosophists which exists there had found it hard to correspond with the Headquarters, but now that the contact has been made once more, we hope they will affiliate with the Federation.

On the whole the past year has been a good one, and there has been evidence of a loud humming sound of life from almost all the groups.

The activities of a Lodge have to be, like a balanced diet, healthy and vital. Supposing each one were to look at his Lodge in this light, what would he find?

Are there study classes, which will give the necessary solid background of Theosophy and the Theosophical Society to youth? Is service encouraged? Service which touches outside the Lodge, amongst the people and the animals we meet in our everyday world? Are there outside contacts collectively, for instance, with other youth groups and clubs in the city to find out more about them and their ideas, and give them the opportunity to understand Theosophy? Are there some social activities which are a good chance for friendly contacts with the young and old?

Our Lodges are places where we should get ideas to improve our lives. Our lives can improve the Lodge and, in turn, the Theosophical Society in which we are growing up to carry on its work in later years.

In conclusion, I wish to express my gratitude to Srimati Rukmini Devi for her active guidance during this year and to the Executive Committee for their co-operation. Also to the many Secretaries and Presidents with whom I have corresponded, and whose letters and suggestions have been a help and pleasure to receive.

NANCY A. BUCH,  
*Secretary.*

## HEADQUARTERS

ADYAR, MADRAS 20

## OFFICERS

1952—1953

### **Executive Committee:**

- |                                     |   |                   |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| (1) THE PRESIDENT                   | } | <i>Ex-officio</i> |
| (2) THE VICE-PRESIDENT              |   |                   |
| (3) THE RECORDING SECRETARY         |   |                   |
| (4) THE TREASURER                   |   |                   |
| (5) SRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI            |   |                   |
| (6) DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI          |   |                   |
| (7) MR. C. R. PARTHASARATHY IYENGAR |   |                   |
| (8) MISS E. W. PRESTON              |   |                   |

**Adyar Library:** DIRECTOR: DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI; LIBRARIAN: SRIMATI A. SITA DEVI.

**Bhojanasala:** SUPERINTENDENT: MR. N. R. SUBRAMANIA IYER.

**Dispensary:** MEDICAL OFFICER: DR. E. SUNDARESAN.

**Engineering Department:** SUPERINTENDENT: MR. M. D. SUBRAMANIAM.

**Garden Department:** SUPERINTENDENT: MR. K. NEELAKANTAN.

**Laundry:** SUPERINTENDENT: MR. M. V. GOPALAKRISHNA IYER.

**Leadbeater Chambers:** SUPERINTENDENT: MISS FLORENCE PULSFORD.

**Legal Adviser:** N. K. CHOKSY ESQ., Q.C.

**Medical Consultant:** DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI.

**Post Office:** MR. V. SRINIVASAN, SUB-POSTMASTER.

**Sanitation and Hygiene Officer:** MADAME P. CAZIN.

**School of the Wisdom:** PRINCIPAL: MR. C. JINARAJADASA; VICE-PRINCIPAL: MR. SIDNEY A. COOK; SECRETARY: MISS E. W. PRESTON.

**The Theosophical Publishing House:** MANAGER: MR. K. S. KRISHNAMURTI.

**The Vasanta Press:** MANAGER: MR. D. V. SYAMALA RAU.

**Watch and Ward Department:** SUPERINTENDENT: MR. K. S. KRISHNAMURTI.

# THE ADYAR LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1952-1953

**Staff.**—I have continued as Honorary Director and Professor C. Kunhan Raja as Curator. Mr. Alain Danielou joined the Library on July 17, 1953 as Curator (subsequently appointed Director in my place). Kumari A. Siitaa Devii has continued as Librarian. Kumari E. Vani Rao, the Assistant Librarian had to resign for personal reasons and left us in August.

Pandit N. Ramachandra Bhat is attending to his work as Joint Editor of the Adyar Library Bulletin in addition to his own work with office correspondence where he is assisted by Clerk-typist Sri S. Easwara Sarma.

Pandit V. Krishnamacharya is engaged in preparation of the Descriptive Catalogue of Samskrit MSS. for the Viśiṣṭādvaita and other Vedānta Sections. He completed editing Vedāntasāra of Rāmānuja with an English Translation by M. B. Narasimha Aiyangar begun a year ago. This was released as No. 83 of the Adyar Library Series. He is now editing with an English Translation, Puruṣasūkta-Bhāṣya of Sri Raṅganātha Yati.

Sri H. G. Narahari completed editing with an English Translation, Vṛttaratnāvali of Veṅkateśa, an old treatise on Metrics, which was printed and released as No. 27 of the Adyar Library Pamphlet series. He assisted Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti in revising the second edition of the English Translation of Yoga Upaniṣads which was released in December 1952. He also assisted in revising the English Translation of

S'ākta Upaniṣads which was released as No. 85 of the Adyar Library Series.

Sri Pandit K. Ramachandra Sarma, besides assisting Pandit V. Krishnamacharya, is engaged in completing the printing of Saṃgītaratnākara, Vol. IV, chapter 7, a work already prepared in manuscript by late Pandit S. Subrahmanya Sastri; the completion of this work is eagerly awaited by scholars in Music.

Sri Pandit V. Narayanasvami Sastri continues to be in charge of transcription of manuscripts. An expert in many scripts he is engaged in preparing copies for the Library of manuscripts, the originals of which become too fragile for safe handling.

Sri K. T. Venkatarama Sarma, Junior Pandit, is engaged in assisting the Librarian in classification and registration of Samskrit, Tamil and Malayalam books and Manuscripts, and in restoration of Manuscripts.

Sri S. Nigamanthachari, Reference Assistant was promoted as Pandit's Assistant and is engaged in assisting Pandits in the copying of manuscripts.

The Library Staff have been engaged in supplying information to Research Scholars and other correspondents and also assisting the many visitors who came to the Library for consultation and study. During 1952-53, 7741 books and 3279 MSS. were consulted and 3109 books and 15 MSS. were borrowed. Accessions to the Library during the year number 1190 made of 1014 books, 162 pamphlets, 1 manuscripts, and 13 Transcripts.

### A. PUBLICATIONS DURING THE YEAR

*Yoga Upaniṣads*—Translated into English by T. R. Srinivasa Aiyangar and Edited by Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti. Second Edition of Publication No. 20 (First Edition), Adyar Library Series.

*Vṛttaratnāvali of Venkatesa*—with his own commentary—Edited and Translated into English by Sri H. G. Narahari. Adyar Library Pamphlet Series No. 27.

*In Defence of Mimāṃsā* by Dr. C. Kunhan Raja—Adyar Library Pamphlet Series No. 28.

*Vedāntasāra of Sri Rāmānuja* with English Translation by M. B. Narasimha Aiyangar—Edited by Pandit Sri V. Krishnamacharya—Adyar Library Series No. 28.

*Āṅgirasasmṛti*—Edited by Sri A. N. Krishna Aiyangar—Adyar Library Series No. 84.

B. *Adyar Library Bulletin*, Vol. XVI, Part 4 and Vol. XVII, Parts 1, 2 and 3.

### C. WORKS COMPLETED AND ISSUED FROM 1-10-52 TO THE DATE OF THIS REPORT

*Saiva Upaniṣads*—Translated into English by T. R. Srinivasa Aiyangar—Edited by Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti—Adyar Library Series No. 85.

### D. WORKS IN PROGRESS THROUGH THE BULLETIN AND INDEPENDENTLY

*Puruṣasūktabhāṣya* of Sri Raṅga-nātha Yati Alias Naniyar—with English Translation by Pandit V. Krishnamacharya.

*Gītā*—with word by word Roman Transliteration and English Translation by A. Siitaa Devii.

*Vedānta and Allied Western Thought*, by Prof. P. N. Srinivasachari.

*Śaṅgitaratnākara*—With the Commentaries of Catura Kallinātha and Simhabhūpala. Edited by Pandit S. Subrahmanya Sastri, Vol. IV.

*Ṛgvedabhāṣya of Skandasvāmin*—Edited by Prof. C. Kunhan Raja.

### E. WORKS INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAMME

*Viṣṇusmṛtivyṛti-Kesavavaijayanti of Nanda Paṇḍita*—Edited by Prof. K. V. Rangasvami Aiyangar.

*Horāsāstram*—with the commentary Apūrvārthapradarsikā by A. N. Srinivasaraghava Aiyangar, Vol. II.

### F. WORKS READY FOR THE PRESS

*Nyāyakusumāñjali of Udayana* with the Commentary of Varadarāja.

*Descriptive Catalogue of Sanskrit Manuscripts* in the Adyar Library, by Pandit V. Krishnamacharya, Vol. X—Viśiṣṭādvaita and other Vedāntas.

*Pakṣatā, Siddhāntalakṣaṇam, Avayava, Sāmānyanirukti, Vyutpattivāda, Caturdalalakṣaṇi*, Vol. II—All of Gadādhara—with commentaries—Edited by Pandit N. Santanam Aiyar.

*Bhagavadgītā* with English Translation of Rāmānuja Bhaṣya by G. G. Narasimha Aiyangar.

### OUR NEEDS

We thank most gratefully those donors who have donated valuable books to maintain the standard of our books. As our funds available for purchase of books are limited, we are greatly indebted to our donors. As explained in our report for the last year (1951-1952), we greatly need fine modern dictionaries, grammars, and reference books and we would be grateful to all those who could supply such books.



*Most of all we need money for our Publication Work.*—This has now come almost to a standstill for lack of funds. We have not been able to meet the deficit in our Budget in printing the Descriptive Catalogues and other scholarly publications. We have been able so far to publish four volumes of Descriptive Catalogues. Research scholars have been making use of the four volumes already published and are awaiting the early completion of the remaining volumes. One more volume is ready for the press, and one more is under preparation; but the publication had to be suspended due to lack of funds. Our normal income is not sufficient to meet the cost of barest minimum staff even though we exercise the most rigid economy, three of our workers being in an entirely honorary capacity and two working on honorariums, while we are helped in our editorial work by distinguished Honorary Editors without whose aid many of our notable works could not have been published. We appeal and pray for generous donations to our funds especially to the Publication Fund. It looks as though our long continued prayers in this direction have been heard to some extent in the information given to us that a sum of approximately Rs. 1,17,000 is to be allocated to the Library Funds from the estate of the late Mrs. Kathleen Tibbits.

It is now my pleasant duty to record my most grateful thanks to Sri C. Jinarājadāsa, the late President of the Theosophical Society, whose scholarly interest and warm-hearted sympathy have been our constant inspiration; to Sri N. Sri Ram, the President of the Theosophical Society for his abiding interest in the welfare of the Library in many directions including the raising of a new building for the Library; to Prof. C. Kunhan Raja, the Curator and Editor, Adyar Library Bulletin; Mr. Alain Danielou, the Curator, who has been busy at planning many things for the Library; to the Honorary Editors: Prof. K. V. Rangasvami Aiyangar, Prof. D. D. Kanga, Pandit N. Aiyasvami Sastri, Sri A. N. Srinivasa Raghava Aiyangar and Pandit M. Duraisami Aiyangar; to Kumari A. Siitaa Devii, the Librarian, to Sri H. G. Narahari, Research Assistant; to Sri V. Krishnamacharya our Senior Pandit, Sri V. Narayanasvami Sastri, Sri K. Ramachandra Sarma and Sri N. R. Bhat, our other Pandits and all other members of the staff; to the Vasanta Press and The Theosophical Publishing House for the valuable services they continue to render to the Library. I also tender my grateful thanks to the institutions and Governments, Indian and overseas, which continue to send their publications to the Library.

G. SRINIVASA MURTI,

*Hon. Director.*

## THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

### REPORT ON THE SCHOOL YEAR 1952-1953

The fourth year of the School of the Wisdom began on October 7, 1952 and closed on March 13, 1953.

The Director of Studies was replaced this year by a Faculty of considerable strength. Besides the Principal, Mr. C. Jinarājadāsa, and Vice-Principal, Mr. Sidney A. Cook, it included: Dr. Jocelyn Cook, Miss Clara Codd, Mr. Duncan Greenlees, M.A. (Oxon.), Miss Elizabeth W. Preston, M.Sc., and Mr. N. Sri Ram, B.A.

In the absence of the Principal in Europe, Mr. Sidney A. Cook opened the session with an address on October 7. He presided over the work of the first week, explaining the objects and methods of work. On his return to Adyar in November Mr. Jinarājadāsa resumed his weekly talks. Mr. N. Sri Ram gave a series of talks on *The Path*. Dr. (Mrs.) Jocelyn T-N. Cook attended and contributed at most of the meetings, presided at various times and took a regular weekly Worker-training class for speakers. Miss Clara Codd, as well as attending frequently, gave a weekly series of talks and exercises on meditation. For four weeks Mr. Duncan Greenlees joined in the work and contributed much on his own special lines of religion and history. Miss E. W. Preston acted as Secretary, attended all the meetings and contributed frequently. The members of the Faculty met regularly once a week to discuss and plan the work of the School.

**Membership.**—Though small in number the group of students was an international one. The seven students included one Australian, two British, two French, one Indian and one Vietnamese.

**Purpose.**—The aim of the School of the Wisdom is far beyond the gaining of knowledge. Its purpose is to

enable students to find in themselves the light of Wisdom and with that light to reach a deeper understanding of life and knowledge.

With these aims in view, and using the experience gained in former years, a syllabus was drawn up giving a comprehensive survey of Theosophy and its applications to man and his world. An outline of the whole course and details for each week was supplied to students well in advance. Each week notes were provided to stimulate further study or provocative questions and discussion.

**Syllabus.**—Beginning with Creation according to Theosophy, Religion and Science, the syllabus passed on from the field of manifestation to consider consciousness and form. Then came the Great Plan for the kingdoms of nature, individualization and the early history of our planetary scheme. Next the races of men on this Earth in this Round were considered, taking a bird's eye view of the history of the world. History was seen as the working out of the Plan and as a background for the development of culture and the growth of consciousness. Both occult and ordinary history were considered side by side and correlation made where possible. A week was devoted to a brief survey of the world today with its current perplexities, efforts at reconstruction and responsibilities, as man enters the atomic age and the new consciousness of the sixth subrace appears.

**The Method** has been largely that of free discussion. This method has proved more successful than might have been anticipated though there were three members whose command of English was limited and hence their power to contribute and to participate fully was reduced. Experience shows

that to get the best out of the School it is essential that students should:

- (a) Be fully conversant with the main Theosophical teachings.
- (b) Have a good working knowledge of English.
- (c) Be prepared to do regular and sustained study-preparation.
- (d) Put the School as their first priority and regard it as a full-time job.

In all the work an endeavour was made to lay stress on principles rather than details, to learn wisdom from the past so that the future may be more intelligently planned, to see the whole as a growing and developing life which never dies but progresses, wave after wave, until the high tide of this planet is reached.

The *Second Term* of the 4th year began on January 12 after a recess of three weeks, during which the Faculty and Students attended and contributed to the International Convention of the Theosophical Society.

The work commenced with four weeks devoted to a study of Man in the present day, Reincarnation, Karma, Life after Death and Education. Dr. (Mrs.) Jocelyn Cook and Miss Preston acted as leaders of discussion. There then followed three weeks of intensive work during which Mr. Duncan Greenlees presented a study of Comparative Religion. During the period 23 religions were considered, contributions being made to the work by Faculty and Students. The closing two weeks were devoted to a consideration of the world problems of Government, Economics and Sociology. The first of these two weeks was given to private study, each student being assigned to one of the Faculty for consultation, so that the work should be of greater value and well co-ordinated. During the second week each presented the material he had gained.

*Special Lectures.*—One afternoon a week there was a public lecture on some

aspect of the subject for that week. In addition many non-members of the School, who had some specialized knowledge, were invited to visit during the morning hours and to speak and join in discussions.

The students visited the Madras Museum and Art Gallery to observe examples of Indian art. Use was made of material supplied by the United Nations Organization and students attended a meeting in Madras to celebrate United Nations Day. Mr. Greenlees presented a programme of international music on records.

*Visits to Departments at Adyar.*—The students paid visits to the Departments on the Adyar Estate and heard accounts of the work done from the Heads of the Departments.

*Social Activities.*—Members worked hard every morning and the 15 minutes break between the hour sessions for tea and social intercourse was much appreciated. The students gave a tea-party at which they entertained those who had helped them.

*Library.*—The Library was freely used and is appreciated. Miss Gladys Taylor acted as Librarian. During the year 233 books were borrowed and 89 new books added to the Library, the gift of generous donors. The total number of books now in the Library is 1673.

*Conclusion.*—Any School, and especially one founded on voluntary participation and free discussion, depends fundamentally upon its students. A good Syllabus, a competent Faculty, a Library and adequate conditions create the atmosphere for the work. The essential work is done by the individual student himself. Regular and punctual attendance, sustained reading and study, preparation and a readiness to participate in all activities—these create the atmosphere where wisdom may be glimpsed.

ELIZABETH W. PRESTON,  
Secretary.

## MEMORANDUM

OF

## ASSOCIATION, ETC.

## CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

No. 2 of 1905

I hereby certify, pursuant to Act XXI of 1860 of the Governor-General of India in Council entitled "An Act for the Registration of Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies, 1860," that The Theosophical Society is duly incorporated as a Society under the aforesaid Act.



(Sd.) A. PERIYASWAMI MOODALIAR,

Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

Station, Madras,

Dated 3rd April 1905.



# THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED NOVEMBER 17, 1875. INCORPORATED APRIL 3, 1905.

*In the matter of Act XXI of 1860 of the Acts of the Viceroy  
and Governor-General of India in Council, being  
an Act for the registration of literary,  
scientific and charitable Societies*

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

## MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the Association is The Theosophical Society.

2. The objects for which the Society is established are :

I. To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour.

II. To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy, and Science.

III. To investigate unexplained laws of Nature and the powers latent in man.

(a) The holding and management of all funds raised for the above objects.

(b) The purchase or acquisition on lease or in exchange or on hire

or by gift or otherwise of any real or personal property, and any rights or privileges necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Society.

(c) The sale, improvement, management and development of all or any part of the property of the Society.

(d) The doing of all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them, including the founding and maintenance of a library or libraries.

3. The names, addresses and occupations of the persons who are members of, and form the first General Council which is the governing body of the Society, are as follow :

### GENERAL COUNCIL

#### *Ex-Officio*

*President-Founder* :—H. S. Olcott, Adyar, Madras, Author.

*Vice-President* :—A. P. Sinnett, London, England, Author.

*Recording-Secretary* :—Hon. Sir S. Subramania Aiyar, Madras, Justice of the High Court.

*Treasurer* :—W. A. English, M.D., Adyar, Madras, Retired Physician.

Alexander Fullerton, General Secretary, American Section, 7, West 8th St., New York.

Upendra Nath Basu, B.A., LL.B., General Secretary, Indian Section, Benares, U.P.

Bertram Keightley, M.A., General Secretary, British Section, 28, Albemarle St., London, W.

W. G. John, General Secretary, Australasian Section, 42, Margaret Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Arvid Knös, General Secretary, Scandinavian Section, Engelbrechtsgatan, 7, Stockholm, Sweden.

C. W. Sanders, General Secretary, New Zealand Section, Queen Street, Auckland, N.Z.

W. B. Fricke, General Secretary, Netherlands Section, 76, Amsteldijk, Amsterdam.

Th. Pascal, M.D., General Secretary, French Section, 59, Avenue de La Bourdonnais, Paris.

Decio Calvari, General Secretary, Italian Section, 380, Corso Umberto I., Rome.

Dr. Rudolf Steiner, General Secretary, German Section, 95, Kaiserallee, Friedenau, Berlin.

Jose M. Massó, Acting General Secretary, Cuban Section, Havana, Cuba.

#### *Additional*

Annie Besant, Benares, Author, [for 3 years].

G. R. S. Mead, London, Author, [for 3 years].

Khan Bahadur Naoroji Dorabji Khandalwala, Poona, Special Judge [for 3 years].

Dinshaw Jivaji Edal Behram, Surat, Physician, [for 2 years].

Francesca E. Arundale, Benares, Author, [for 2 years].

Tammacharla Ramachandra Row, Gooty, Retired Sub-Judge, [for 1 year].

Charles Blech, Paris, France, Retired Manufacturer, [for 1 year].

4. Henry Steel Olcott, who with the late Helena Petrovna Blavatsky and others founded the Theosophical Society at New York, United States of America, in the year 1875, shall hold, during his lifetime, the position of President, with the title of "President-Founder," and he shall have, alone, the authority and responsibility and shall exercise the functions provided in the Rules and Regulations for the Executive Committee, meetings of which he may call for consultation and advice as he may desire.

5. The income and property of the Society, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be

paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividends, bonus, or otherwise by way of profits to the persons who at any time are or have been members of the Society or to any of them or to any person claiming through any of them: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Society or to any member thereof or other person in return for any services rendered to the Society.

6. No member or members of the General Council shall be answerable for any loss arising in the administration or application of the said trust funds or sums of money or for any damage to or deterioration in the said trust premises unless such loss, damage

or deterioration shall happen by or through his or their wilful default or neglect.

7. If upon the dissolution of the Society there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society or any of them but shall be given or transferred to some other Society or Association, Institution or Institutions, having objects similar to the objects of this Society, to be determined by the votes of not less than three-fifths of the members of the Society present per-

Witnesses to the signatures :

(Sd.) WM. GLENNY KEAGEY ...  
 „ ARTHUR RICHARDSON ...  
 „ PYARE LAL ...  
 „ PEROZE P. MEHERJEE ...

sonally or by proxy at a meeting called for the purpose, or in default thereof by such Judge or Court of Law as may have jurisdiction in the matter.

8. A copy of the Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is filed with this Memorandum of Association, and the undersigned being seven of the members of the Governing Body of the said Society do hereby certify that such copy of such Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is correct.

As witness our several and respective hands, this . . . day of March 1905.

{ (Sd.) H. S. OLCOTT  
 „ W. A. ENGLISH  
 „ SUBRAMANIAM  
 „ FRANCESCA E. ARUNDALE  
 „ UPENDRANATH BASU  
 „ ANNIE BESANT  
 „ N. D. KHANDALVALA

# RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION NAMED "THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY," ADYAR, MADRAS

1. The General Council shall be the Governing Body of The Theosophical Society. Not less than seven members of this Council shall be residents of India.

2. (a) The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and the General Secretaries of the component National Societies (otherwise called Sections) shall *ex-officio* be members of the General Council. The terms of those members of the General Council who hold office *ex-officio* shall expire with the vacation of their qualifying office.

(b) The General Council shall include not less than 5 and not more than 10 Additional Members, among whom all past Presidents while in good standing shall automatically have place.

Other members shall on the nomination of the President be elected for a term of three years by vote of the General Council at its Annual Meeting, their names having been sent to the Members of the General Council at least three months before the Annual Meeting.

(c) Members retiring shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) The Recording Secretary shall be the Secretary of the General Council.

3. It shall be competent for the General Council to remove any of its members, or any officer of The Society excepting the President of The Theosophical Society and excepting the General Secretaries of National Societies, by a three-fourths majority of its whole number of members, at a special

meeting called for the purpose, of which at least three months' notice shall have been given, the quorum consisting, however, of not less than five members.

4. The General Council shall ordinarily meet once a year, at the time of the Annual Meeting or Convention of The Society; but a special meeting may be called at any time by the President, and shall be called at any time by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, on the written requisition of not less than one-fourth of the total number of members; but of such special meetings not less than three months' notice shall be given, and the notice shall contain a statement of the special business to be laid before the meeting.

5. At all meetings of the General Council, members thereof may vote in person, or in writing, or by proxy duly given to another member of the General Council for the particular meeting concerned. Except as aforesaid no member shall exercise more than one vote. No member shall be allowed to exercise more than 5 proxy votes.

*Note:* Meetings include Adjourned Meetings.

6. The quorum of an ordinary as well as of a special meeting of the General Council shall be five members. If there be no quorum, the meeting may be adjourned *sine die*, or the Chairman of the meeting may adjourn it to another date, of which three months' further notice shall be given, when the business of the meeting shall be disposed of, irrespective of whether there is a quorum present or not.

7. The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, of The Society, shall preside at all meetings of The Theosophical Society or of the General Council, and shall have a casting vote in the case of an equal division of the members voting on any question before the meeting.

8. In the absence of the President and the Vice-President, the meeting shall elect a chairman from among the members present at the meeting, and he shall have a casting vote in the case of a tie.

9. The term of office of the President shall be seven years.

10. Six months before the expiration of a President's term of office, or within three days of the office becoming vacant, the Recording Secretary shall call for nominations for the office of President from the members of the General Council, each of whom shall be entitled to make not more than three nominations. Such call to members outside India shall be by cable, confirmed within two days by air and ordinary mails. Each member of the General Council who is a General Secretary shall consult with the respective National Governing Council and shall make his nominations on its behalf. Nominations of any member or members in good standing, whose consent as laid down hereunder shall be necessary for the validity of the nomination, shall be sent to the Recording Secretary, so as to reach him within two months of the date of the call for nominations.

At the expiration of this period the Recording Secretary shall place all the nominations received along with the relevant papers before the Executive Committee at a meeting specially convened for the purpose. At such meeting the Executive Committee shall examine the nominations. All nominations for which the consent of the nominated member has not been filed in the office of the Recording Secretary within the period of two months just preceding shall be rejected as invalid. The rest shall be counted, and the names of those receiving the three highest numbers of nominations, (or any lesser number of names, if less than three are nominated) together with any others who have been nominated by



not less than half the members of the General Council, but after eliminating any who in the meantime have died or who have withdrawn their consent to nomination and subject only to the provisions of the next following paragraph, shall be those to be voted upon. The list made by the Executive Committee shall not be subject to challenge.

The Recording Secretary shall immediately in writing communicate all the names on the list to each nominee thereon (if the nominee is not at Adyar the communication shall be by telegraph or cable). In the event of any death or withdrawal the corresponding name shall be struck from the list.

On the tenth day following the meeting of the Executive Committee for the examination of nominations, the Recording Secretary shall communicate the list of nominees remaining to be voted upon, to the General Secretaries, and to Lodges and Fellows-at-large attached to the Headquarters at Adyar. Such communication to the General Secretaries outside India shall be by cable, confirmed within two days by air mail and ordinary mail, and to the others by air mail confirmed within two days by ordinary mail. Each General Secretary shall take the individual vote of each of the voter-members of his Section, that is, of members of the National Society on his rolls who are not in arrears of annual dues for more than one year at the close of the previous official year of the Section, and shall communicate the result to the Recording Secretary, who shall himself take the votes of the Lodges and Fellows-at-large attached to the Headquarters at Adyar, who are not in arrears of annual dues for more than one year at the close of the previous official year of the Society at Adyar.

If only one member is nominated the vote so taken shall be on a "For" or "Against" ballot.

At the expiration of six months from the call for nominations by the Recording Secretary, the results of the voting shall be counted by him. The Executive Committee shall appoint two of its members as scrutineers. The nominee receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected to the office of President.

If the voting results in the highest number of votes being given equally to two or more of the nominees, or if the voting upon the "For" or "Against" ballot results in the rejection of the one member receiving nomination, or if the death of any nominee occurs before the counting of the votes and the declaration of the result, the nomination and election procedure herein provided shall be repeated and the President then in office or the Vice-President, if he is temporarily filling such office, shall continue therein until a new President is elected.

11. (a) The President shall nominate the Vice-President, subject to confirmation by the General Council, and his term of Office shall continue till a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council. It shall be his duty, among other things, to carry on the executive functions of the President in case the President is dead or where the Executive Committee finds that he is disabled by accident, serious illness or otherwise from performing the duties of the President.

(b) Notwithstanding anything herein contained the Vice-President doing the duties of the President shall continue to be the Vice-President of The Society until a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council. In case of death, resignation or permanent disability of such Vice-President doing the duties of the President, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Vice-President who shall hold Office until the new President shall have

nominated a new Vice-President and his nomination be confirmed by the General Council.

12. The President shall appoint the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and such subordinate officials as he may find necessary, which appointments shall be reported to the Executive Committee at its next following meeting, and shall continue to be valid unless rejected by a majority of votes of the whole number of members in the Executive Committee, voting in person or by proxy, at the said meeting, the newly appointed Treasurer or Recording Secretary not being present, nor counting as a member of the Executive Committee for purposes of such vote.

13. The Treasurer, Recording Secretary and subordinate officials being assistants to the President in his capacity as executive officer of the General Council, the President shall have the authority to remove any appointee of his own to such offices.

14. The General Council shall at each Annual Meeting appoint an Executive Committee for the ensuing year, of not less than seven and not more than ten members, of whom at least six shall be members of the General Council. The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Recording Secretary shall be *ex-officio* members. Vacancies caused by death or resignation or otherwise may be filled by co-optation.

15. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every three months for the receipt and consideration of accounts and the despatch of any other business. A special meeting may be called by the President whenever he thinks fit, and such meeting shall be called by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, when he is required to do so, by not less than three members of the Committee, who shall state to him in writing the business for which they wish the meeting to assemble.

16. At a meeting of the Executive Committee, three members shall constitute a quorum.

17. The Committee shall, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, elect a Chairman to preside over the meeting and in case of equality of votes the Chairman for the time being shall have a casting vote.

18. The President shall be the custodian of all the archives and records of The Society, and shall be the Executive Officer and shall conduct and direct the business of The Society in compliance with its rules; he shall be empowered to make temporary appointments and to fill provisionally all vacancies that occur in the offices of The Society, and shall have discretionary powers in all matters not specifically provided for in these Rules.

19. All subscriptions, donations and other moneys payable to the Association shall be received by the President, or the Treasurer, or the Recording Secretary, the receipt of either of whom in writing shall be sufficient discharge for the same.

20. The securities and uninvested funds of The Society shall be deposited in the Imperial Bank of India, Madras, or such other Bank or Banks as the Executive Committee, T.S., shall select; and in countries outside of India, in such Banks as the President shall select. Cheques drawn against the funds shall be signed by the President or the Treasurer or the Recording Secretary of The Society.

21. (a) Notwithstanding anything in these rules to the contrary the President may, touching the assets and affairs of The Society beyond India, at any time and from time to time by a Power of Attorney appoint any persons to be the Attorneys of The Society for such period and subject to such conditions and for such purposes and with such authorities and powers as he may think fit, and he may if

necessary affix the Seal of The Society thereto.

Without prejudice to the general powers conferred as aforesaid, the President may grant power and authority among others to sell, grant mortgage, lease or otherwise transfer the assets of The Society, movable or immovable, real or personal, and to receive subscriptions, donations, legacies, moneys and other property movable, or immovable, and to institute, continue, compromise, compound or refer to arbitration any actions, suits, or other proceedings, and to take and hold shares in any Company, and to vote at any meetings thereof, and to subdelegate all or any of his powers, and to give receipts and releases, and to sign, seal and deliver any instrument or document and have the same registered.

(b) The funds of The Society may be invested by the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, in Government or other Public securities, or in the purchase of immovable property or First Mortgages on such property.

(c) The Adyar Estate of The Society in Madras including The Society's original Headquarters and all other properties in Adyar since acquired by gift, purchase or otherwise, shall not at any time be disposed of by sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or otherwise; save that the President, if specially authorized by a resolution of the General Council, passed by a three-fourths vote of their members, voting in person, in writing or by proxy, may dispose of such outlying portions of the said Adyar Estate, as may be specified in such Resolutions.

(d) The President may, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, sell, mortgage or otherwise transfer any investment in Government or other Public securities, or any movable or immovable property of The

Society other than those mentioned in Rule 21 (c).

22. (a) All deeds whereby immovable properties belonging to The Society are transferred or otherwise dealt with shall have affixed to them the Seal of The Society with the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is too ill to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

(b) All transfers of movable property, if in writing, shall bear the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary but need not have affixed to them the Seal of The Society. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is too ill to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

*Note.*—The procedure detailed in this Rule is without prejudice to the powers conferred under Rule 21 (a).

23. The Society may sue and be sued in the name of the President.

24. The Recording Secretary may, with the authority of the President, or of the two substitutes appointed according to Rule 22, affix the Seal of The Society on all instruments requiring to be sealed, and all such instruments shall be signed by the President or by the two substitutes above mentioned and the Recording Secretary.

25. On the death or resignation of the President, the Recording Secretary shall at once make arrangements for the election of a new President, in accordance with Rule 10, and until such new President is elected the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President.

#### HEADQUARTERS

26. Headquarters of The Society are established at Adyar, Madras, and are outside the jurisdiction of the Indian Section.

27. The President shall have full power and discretion to permit to any person the use of any portion or premises in the Adyar Estate for occupation and residence, on such terms as the President may lay down, or to refuse permission so to occupy or reside. Any person occupying or residing under the permission granted by the President shall, on a fortnight's notice given by or on behalf of the President, unconditionally quit the premises before the expiry of that period.

### ORGANIZATION

28. Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership in The Society, but those under the age of majority in their respective countries shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian.

29. Admission to membership may be obtained through the President of a Lodge, the General Secretary of a National Society, or through the Recording Secretary; and a Diploma of membership shall be issued to the Fellow, bearing the signature of the President, and countersigned by the General Secretary, where the applicant resides within the territory of a National Society, or countersigned by the Recording Secretary, if admission to membership has been obtained through the Recording Secretary.

30. Lodges and Fellows, whether unattached or attached to a Lodge, residing within the territory of a National Society, must belong to that National Society, unless coming under Rule 31.

Provided that with the sanction of the President a member who belongs to one National Society may while retaining his membership of that National Society belong to another National Society, but he shall not be allowed to

cast more than one vote in matters relating to The Theosophical Society.

31. (a) When an individual Fellow in good standing, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such individual Fellow may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible. This shall equally apply in the case of the admission of any new member.

(b) A Fellow of The Theosophical Society in good standing who is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he or she belongs or ought to belong under Rule 30 and of joining another National Society, may be permitted by the President to do so provided such Fellow presents reason sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, and provided further that the application for transfer is submitted with the approval of the General Secretaries of both National Societies concerned.

This rule shall apply equally in the case of the admission of a new member.

(c) When a Lodge, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which it belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such Lodge may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under



obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible.

Before any Lodge shall have the right to apply to be directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, it shall have mailed to each of its members individually a notice that such application is about to be considered. Such notice must be mailed not less than two weeks before the meeting at which such consideration is to take place, and voting on the application shall be deferred until two months after that meeting. If at such first meeting, or any succeeding meeting pursuant thereto, it is decided to bring the application to a vote as herein provided, a full report of the reasons for such action shall at once be sent to the General Secretary of the National Society concerned.

Any application for separation from the National Society to which a Lodge belongs shall be ineffective unless two-thirds of the members of the Lodge vote in favour thereof.

(d) In the event of any undue delay in the transmission of any application under any of the foregoing provisions of this Rule, a correct copy of such application (duly signed or otherwise authenticated) may be transmitted directly to the President by the Fellow or Lodge concerned, and the President may act on such copy if in his absolute discretion it appears to him to be fit or proper that he should so act. Any action so taken by the President shall be as valid and effectual, for all purposes, as if it had been taken on the original application submitted for transmission to the President. The Fellow or Lodge, when forwarding such copy to the President directly, shall state the full grounds and reasons for the direct transmission.

32. Lodges or Fellows-at-large, in countries where no National Society exists, must apply for their Charters or Diplomas directly to the Recording

Secretary, and may not, without the sanction of the President, belong to National Societies within the territorial limits of which they are not situated or resident.

33. Any seven Fellows may apply to be chartered as a Lodge. In a country where no National Society exists the application must be forwarded to the President of The Society through the Recording Secretary.

34. The President shall have authority to grant or refuse applications for Charters, which, if issued, must bear his signature and that of the Recording Secretary, and the Seal of The Society, and be recorded at the Headquarters of The Society.

35. (a) A National Society may be formed by the President, upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges.

(b) The President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) certificates of Federation to any national group of Lodges not sufficient in number or otherwise unable to form or to maintain a National Society, as defined in these Rules, or where in his judgment territorial division or other causes have made such Federation necessary or desirable. Any such Federation may elect an Organizing Secretary or other executive officer or officers for the purpose of further organization and the transaction of Federation business.

A Federation shall not appoint a General Secretary (as the term is used in these Rules) nor be represented on the General Council. In all other respects the Rules applicable to National Societies and to General Secretaries shall apply to Federations and to their chief executives.

(c) The President shall have authority at his discretion to appoint and to withdraw appointments of Presidential Agents to act under his instructions for the purposes of conducting

the business and administration of The Society in any place and in any respect not inconsistent with these Rules. Each such appointment and the power delegated to each such Agent shall be evidenced by a Letter of Appointment referring to this Rule.

36. All Charters of National Societies or Lodges and all Diplomas of membership derive their authority from the President, acting as Executive officer of the General Council of The Society, and may be cancelled by the same authority.

37. Each Lodge and National Society shall have the power to make its own Rules which shall not be incompatible with the Rules of the National Society to which the Lodge belongs or with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

All Rules of Lodges and National Societies and amendments thereto shall be submitted for approval within thirty days of their adoption as follows: In the case of a Lodge belonging to a National Society, all such Rules and amendments shall be submitted to the General Secretary of that National Society; in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge not situated within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge directly attached to Adyar under Rule 31 (c) all such Rules or amendments thereto shall be submitted directly to the President.

All Rules and amendments shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within ninety days of acknowledgment of their receipt.

If by a change made in a Rule of The Theosophical Society, any Rule of a National Society, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of The Theosophical Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the National Society shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

If by a change made in a Rule of a National Society, any Rule of a Lodge, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of the National Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the Lodge shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of the National Society.

38. Every National Society must appoint a General Secretary, who shall be the channel of official communication between the General Council and the National Society.

39. The General Secretary of each National Society shall forward to the President, annually, not later than the first day of November, a report of the year's work of his Society, and at any time furnish any further information the President or General Council may desire.

40. National Societies hitherto known as Sections, which have been incorporated under the name of "The . . . Section of The T.S." before the year 1908, may retain that name in their respective countries, in order not to interfere with the incorporation already existing, but shall be included under the name of National Societies, for all purposes in these Rules and Regulations.

#### FINANCE

41. (a) The fees payable to the General Treasury by Lodges not comprised within the limits of any National Society are as follows: for Charter, £1; for each Diploma of Membership, 5s.; for the Annual Subscription of each Fellow, 5s.; but in the case of Lodges comprised within the jurisdiction of a National Society, the Annual Subscription of each Fellow shall be the amount prescribed for Annual Subscription by the by-laws or other regulations of the National Society within which the Lodge exists; or equivalents.

(b) New members joining otherwise than at the beginning of the year

shall at the time of admission pay their annual subscription *pro rata* for the remaining period of the fiscal year at the rate of £0-1-3 per quarter.

42. Fellows-at-large, resident within the territory of a National Society under the Provision of Rule 31 (a), shall pay to the General Treasury as Entrance Fee and as Annual Subscription the amounts prescribed by the by-laws or other regulation of such National Society, but not less than 5/- and £1 respectively.

Fellows-at-large, not resident within the territory of a National Society shall pay to the General Treasury an Entrance Fee of 5/- and an Annual Subscription of £1.

43. (a) Each National Society shall pay into the General Treasury ten per cent of the total amount received for its own National dues, and shall remit the same to the Treasurer at Adyar on or before the first day of September of the current year, and the financial year of The Society shall close on 30th September.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 41 (a) and Rule 42, the President at his discretion may authorize Presidential Agents to collect dues in territories to which they have been appointed and to remit in accordance with Rule 43 (a).

44. In the event of the cancellation of any Charter under Rule 36, or the dissolution of any National Society or of a Lodge, the constituent Charter of the National Society or of the Lodge, granted by the President, shall, *ipso facto*, become forfeited or lapsed, and all property, real or personal, including Charters, Diplomas, Seal, Records and other papers belonging to or in the custody of such National Society or Lodge shall vest as follows:

(a) in The Society, in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge not within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge coming under Rule 31 (c), (except where the

law of the country where the National Society or Lodge is situated prohibits such vesting, in which case the property shall vest as hereinafter provided)—and delivery shall be made to the President, or to his nominee on his behalf.

(b) in the National Society in which the Lodge is situated, in the case of a Lodge within the territory of a National Society, said Lodge not coming under Rule 31 (c), and delivery shall be made to the General Secretary of the said National Society.

No National Society or Lodge whose Charter shall have become forfeited or lapsed shall continue to use the name, motto, or seal of The Society except for the purpose of vesting in The Society or in the National Society as the case may be the real and personal property of such National Society or Lodge.

Provided, nevertheless, that the President shall have power to revive the Charter of the National Society or the Lodge, as the case may be, whose Charter shall have become so forfeited or lapsed, and to transfer the said Charter to other Lodges being not less than seven in number, or to other Fellows being not less than seven in number, as the case may be, or to such other nominees of his as in his judgment shall seem best for the interests of The Society.

In cases under (a) above, where such vesting in The Society is prohibited by the law of the country in which is situated the National Society or the Lodge, whose Charter has become forfeited or lapsed as aforesaid, the property shall vest in a local Trustee or Trustees appointed by the President.

To effect any transfer of property, to which The Society may become entitled under this Rule, it shall be lawful for the President to appoint an agent or nominee for the purpose of executing any necessary document or documents, or for taking any steps necessary

effectually to transfer the said property to The Society.

45. The financial accounts of The Society shall be audited annually by qualified Auditors who shall be appointed by the General Council at each Annual Meeting for the ensuing year.

### MEETINGS

46. The Annual General Meeting or Convention of The Society shall be held in India in the month of December, at such place as shall be determined by the Executive Committee in June of each year. Lodges desirous of inviting the Convention and able to make due arrangements for its accommodation, shall send the invitation in March of the current year, with particulars of the arrangements they propose to make.

47. At least once in every seven years a World Congress of The Theosophical Society may be held out of India, at a place and date to be fixed

by the General Council, but so as not to interfere with the Annual Convention in India.

48. The President shall have the power to convene special meetings of The Society at his discretion.

### REVISION

49. The General Council, of their own motion or on the motion of the Executive Committee and after at least three months' notice has been given to each member of said Council, may, by a three-fourths vote of those members who vote in person, in writing, or by proxy, make, alter or repeal the Rules and Regulations of The Society, in such manner as it may deem expedient.

50. The General Council may frame by-laws not inconsistent with these Rules and Regulations and may add to, alter, or repeal such by-laws, consistently with the said Rules and Regulations, as it may deem expedient.



# DIRECTORY FOR 1954

## Ex-Officio Members of General Council

**President:** MR. N. SRI RAM.

**Vice-President:** MR. SIDNEY A. COOK.

**Recording Secretary:** MISS EMMA HUNT.

**Treasurer:** MR. H. B. F. MOORHEAD.

## General Secretaries and Presidential Agents and Organizing Secretaries

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1886	United States	... Mr. James S. Perkins	... P.O. Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois
1888	England	... C. R. Groves, Esq.	... 50 Gloucester Place, London, W. 1
1891	India	... Sri Rohit Mehta	... Theosophical Society, Banaras 1
1893	Australia	... Mr. J. L. Davidge	... 29 Bligh Street, Sydney, N.S.W.
1895	Sweden	... Herr Elis Wikström	... Östermalmsgatan 12, Stockholm
1896	New Zealand	... Mr. W. E. B. Dunningham	... 10 Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland, S.E. 3
1897	Netherlands	... Mr. B. Wouters	... Amsteldijk 76, Amsterdam Z.
1899	France	... Monsieur Francis Brunel	... 4 Square Rapp, Paris VII
1902	Italy	... Dr. Giuseppe Gasco	... 14-Piazza Gherbiana, Mondovì-Breo, Prov. Cuneo
1902	Germany	... Direktor Martin Boyken	... Rotbuchenstieg 40, (24a) Hamburg 39
1905	Cuba	... Señor Juan Alfons. Sanchez	... P. O. Box 365, Habana
1907	Hungary	...	...
1907	Finland	... Miss Signe Rosvall	... Vironkatu 7 C, Helsinki
1908	Russia	...	...
1909	Czechoslovakia*	...	...
1909	Southern Africa	... S. Stakesby-Lewis, Esq.	... "Monsalvat," Aintree Road, Highlands, Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia
1910	Scotland	... Edward Gall, Esq.	... 28 Great King Street, Edinburgh
1910	Switzerland	... Mme. Rachel Tripet	... 26 Rue de Vermont, Geneva
1911	Belgium	... Mlle. Serge Brisy	... 37 Rue Jean-Baptiste Meunier, Bruxelles
1912	Indonesia	... Mr. Soemardjo	... Blavatskypark 5, Merdeka-Barat 17, Djakarta, Java
1912	Burma	... U Po Lat	... No. 102, 49th Street, Rangoon
1912	Austria	... Herr F. Schleifer	... Paracelsusgasse 4, T. 6, Vienna III/40
1913	Norway	... Herr Ernst Nielsen	... Oscarsgt. 11. I. Oslo
1918	Egypt	...	...
1918	Denmark	... Herr J. H. Möller	... Strandvejen 130a, Aarhus
1919	Ireland	... Mrs. Evelyn O. Hornidge	... 31 Pembroke Road, Dublin
1919	Mexico	... Señor Adolfo de la Peña Gil.	... Iturbide 28, Mexico, D. F.
1919	Canada	... Lt. Col. E.L. Thomson, D.S.O.	... 52 Isabella Street, Toronto 5, Ont.
1920	Argentina	... Señor José M. Olivares	... Sarmiento 2478, Buenos Aires
1920	Chile	... Señor Luis Tapia Alarcon	... Casilla 604, Valparaiso
1920	Brazil	... Tenente Armando Sales	... Rua Sao Bento 38, 1° andar, Sao Paulo
1920	Bulgaria	...	...
1921	Iceland	... Gretar Fells	... Ingólfsstr. 22, Reykjavík
1921	Spain	...	...

\* Presidential Agency. Presidential Agents are not members of the General Council.

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1921	Portugal ...	Mr. Felix Bermudes ...	Rua Passos Manuel, No. 20-cave, Lisbon
1922	Wales ...	Miss E. Claudia Owen ...	10 Park Place, Cardiff
1923	Poland ...	...	...
1925	Uruguay ...	Señor Enrique Molina ...	Palacio Diaz, 18 de Julio 1333, Montevideo
1925	Puerto Rico ...	Señora Esperanza C. Hopgood	Box 8774, Fernandez Juncos, Santurce
1925	Rumania ...	...	...
1925	Yugoslavia ...	...	...
1926	Ceylon * ...	N. K. Choksy, Esq., Q. C. ...	Roshanara, 54 Turret Road, Colombo
1928	Greece ...	Monsieur Kostis Melissaropoulos	3 Ethnikis Trapezis Square, Filothei, Athens
1929	Central America ...	Señor Miguel Monge Echandi (Acting) ...	P. O. Box 797, San José, Costa Rica
1929	Paraguay ...	...	...
1929	Peru ...	Señor Jorge Torres Ugarriza...	Apartado No. 2718, Lima
1933	Philippines ...	Dr. Benito F. Reyes ...	P. Florentino corner Iba Streets, Quezon City
1937	Colombia ...	Señorita Corina Martinez Sanders ...	Apartado Postal 539, Bogotá
1947	British E. Africa ...	Mr. Vallabhdas H. Kapadia...	P. O. Box 354, Zanzibar
1948	Pakistan * ...	Mrs. Gool Minwalla ...	Noonan Road, Karachi 3
1948	Malaya and Singapore * ...	Mr. V. Rajagopal ...	P. O. Box 752, Singapore
1949	Northern Ireland † ...	Dr. Hugh Shearman ...	18 Brookhill Ave., Belfast
1950	State of Israel * ...	Dr. I. S. Cohen ...	P. O. Box 2858, Tel Aviv
1951	Japan * ...	...	...
1952	Viet-Nam ...	Mr. Pham-Ngoc-Da ...	Directeur de l'Ecole des Filles, Chaudoc
1953	Venezuela ...	Señor Pablo Bonilla T. ...	Apartado 2907, Caracas

#### **Additional Members of the General Council**

MR. R. M. ALPAIWALLA, 179, Lamington Cross Road, Bombay 7 (for 1953, 1954 and 1955).

MR. J. E. VAN DISSEL, Dirk Boutslaan 18, Eindhoven, Holland (for 1954, 1955 and 1956).

DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1953, 1954 and 1955).

MR. H. S. L. POLAK, 49 Earls Ave., The Leas, Folkestone, England (for 1953, 1954 and 1955).

N. K. CHOKSY, ESQ., Q. C., Roshanara, 54 Turret Road, Colombo, Ceylon (for 1953, 1954 and 1955).

DR. HUGH SHEARMAN, 36 Cliftonville Road, Belfast, United Kingdom (for 1954, 1955 and 1956).

SRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI ARUNDALE, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1952, 1953 and 1954).

MISS ANN KERR, Assistant Recording Secretary, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1954, 1955 and 1956).

\* Presidential Agency } Presidential Agents and Organizing Secretaries are not members of the  
† Federation } General Council.

## MINUTES

*Of Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society,  
held in the H.P.B. Room at Headquarters, Adyar, on  
Friday, 25th December, 1953, at 2 p.m.*

### First Session

#### PRESENT :

Mr. N. Sri Ram	... President (in the chair).
Miss Emma Hunt	... Recording Secretary, Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in New Zealand and for Mr. N. K. Choksy, Additional Member.
Mr. H. B. F. Moorhead	... Treasurer.
Mr. C. R. Groves	... General Secretary, the Theosophical Society in England, Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Finland and for Mr. H. S. L. Polak, Additional Member.
Mr. Rohit Mehta	... General Secretary, the Theosophical Society in India.
Mr. J. E. van Dissel	... Additional Member, and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Austria.
Srimati Rukmini Devi	... Additional Member, and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Switzerland.
Mr. R. M. Alpaiwalla	... Additional Member.
Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti	... Additional Member.

1. *Confirmation of Minutes.*—The Minutes of the meetings held on 25th and 31st December, 1952, having been circulated to the members of the General Council, were taken as read and were adopted and signed.

2. *Resolution of regret at the passing of Mr. C. Jinarājādāsa.*—The President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, referring to the passing of Mr. C. Jinarājādāsa

at Olcott, the Headquarters of the Theosophical Society in America, on June 18, 1953, moved the following Resolution and it was adopted by the Council :

The General Council of the Theosophical Society expresses its deep regret at the passing of its late President, Brother C. Jinarājadāsa, on June 18, 1953, and places on record its sense of the invaluable services rendered by him to the cause of Theosophy and the Theosophical Society over a period of more than fifty years, and the affection and gratitude of the members of all Sections in all parts of the world.

3. *Matters arising out of the Minutes :*

(a) *Next World Congress.*—The President reported that an invitation had been received from Mr. Kewalram Dayaram Shahani of Karachi to hold a World Congress in 1954 in that city. The opinion of the members of the Council was that in the present world conditions it was not practicable to hold a Congress in 1954. It was decided that the matter be postponed.

(b) *Suggestion by Dr. Giuseppe Gasco, General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Italy, that the Theosophical Society should take the initiative to found a "Universal Academy of Science and Religions" or to induce UNESCO to summon a "Universal Ecumenical Council" of all religions, in order to prepare each one to give its share in the spiritual making of a new conscience for mankind, as expression of the One God worshipped under different names.*—Further consideration was given to this proposal which had first come before the Council at its meeting on December 25, 1952, and had been referred back to Dr. Gasco. His letter of March 1953 sent in reply was presented.

It was decided, after some discussion, that such a Conference or Council as Dr. Gasco proposed was beyond the capacity of the Society at present. It was felt that if leading Theosophists in Europe, supported by members in other countries, could interest the UNESCO in the project, there was more likelihood of success. Members of the Society might be urged to take a practical interest in such organizations as the Non-Governmental Bodies recognized by the United Nations.

(c) *Position of the Theosophical Society in Chile.*—The President explained briefly the situation in the Chilean Section which had been reported to the Council at its meeting on December 25, 1952. The present difficulties were caused by the existence of two groups, arising out of proceedings to elect a new General Secretary. One of them is centred in Santiago and holds some of the property of the Section, and the other is centred in Valparaiso. There were two claimants for the office of General Secretary, each supported by his own group.

The President said that we had recognized Señor Luis Tapia Alarcon of Valparaiso as the regularly elected General Secretary; his election had been recognized and reported to us by his predecessor in office, Señora Teresa de Risso. The President thought that no further action was necessary at the present time from Adyar except to urge the Santiago group to respect our decision and help to restore the unity of the Section.



(d) *Revision of Rule 31 of the Rules and Regulations of the Theosophical Society.*—The amendments and additions to Rule 31, having obtained the required majority of votes, were declared adopted as follows (additions shown in italics):

31 (a):

"When an individual Fellow in good standing, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such individual Fellow may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned *who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible.* This shall equally apply in the case of the admission of any new member."

31 (c):

"When a Lodge, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which it belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society such Lodge may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned *who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible.*"

New Rule 31 (d):

"In the event of any undue delay in the transmission of any application under any of the foregoing provisions of this Rule, a correct copy of such application (duly signed or otherwise authenticated) may be transmitted directly to the President by the Fellow or Lodge concerned, and the President may act on such copy if in his absolute discretion it appears to him to be fit or proper that he should so act. Any action so taken by the President shall be as valid and effectual, for all purposes, as if it had been taken on the original application submitted for transmission to the President. The Fellow or Lodge, when forwarding such copy to the President directly, shall state the full grounds and reasons for the direct transmission."

In favour	...	39
Against	...	1

4. *To approve omission of the word "British" wherever the words "British India" occur in the Rules and Regulations of the Theosophical Society.*—The General Council approved the omission of the word "British," the result of the voting being as follows:

In favour	...	40
Against	...	Nil.

(Note.—It being more convenient to deal with certain matters at the next session of the Council, the President changed the order of the Agenda.)

5. *Election of three Additional Members of the General Council for the years 1954, 1955 and 1956.*—The undermentioned members were declared duly elected as Additional Members of the General Council for a period of three years (1954, 1955 and 1956). The results of voting were as follows :

		No. of Votes	
		In favour	Against
Mr. J. E. van Dissel	...	38	1
Dr. Hugh Shearman	...	39	—
Miss Ann Kerr	...	39	1

6. *The Estate of the late Mrs. Kate Ellen Tibbits.*—It was reported to the Council that the late Mrs. Kate Ellen Tibbits had bequeathed all her real and personal Estate as follows :

(a) One half to the Theosophical Society at Adyar as a memorial fund to her late husband and herself. She requests but without creating any legal or binding trust or obligation that the Society use this legacy for the benefit and upkeep of their Library.

(b) The other half to the Theosophical Society absolutely as a memorial fund in memory of her late husband and herself. She requests but without creating any legal or binding trust or obligation that the Society use this legacy for the benefit and upkeep of the Indian Section Library at its Headquarters at Banaras.

The General Council approved the following Resolution, the result of voting being shown hereunder :

"Whereas the late Mrs. Kate Ellen Tibbits has bequeathed all her real and personal Estate, one half to the Theosophical Society at Adyar for the benefit and upkeep of the Adyar Library and the other half also to the Theosophical Society for the benefit and upkeep of the Indian Section Library at its Headquarters at Banaras :

"Be it resolved that the General Council empowers the Executive Committee to deal with the legacy in such manner as the Executive Committee deems fit, to implement the terms of the bequest and the wishes of the Donor."

In favour	...	40
Against	...	Nil.

7. *Resolution to lease certain areas and buildings in Damodar Gardens to the Besant Centenary Trust.*—The President reported that he had sent a letter to all the members of the General Council dated April 15, 1953, proposing that a fifteen year lease of certain areas and buildings in Damodar Gardens (defined with a map) be given to the Besant Centenary Trust, and asked for the opinions of the members on his proposal. Out of the 51 members to whom the communication was sent, forty-four (including Brother C. Jinārājādāsa) had expressed themselves as being in agreement with the proposal. Five were not in favour of it as it stood. As it was necessary in terms of Rule 21 (c) of the Rules and Regulations of the Theosophical Society to pass a definite resolution embodying the proposal, the following resolution was submitted to all members of the Council :

"Resolved to approve of the President's proposal to give the areas and buildings in Damodar Gardens now occupied by the Besant

Centenary Trust, and any other areas in Damodar Gardens that may be specified by the President, on lease for fifteen years to that Trust, the terms of the lease to be decided by the Executive Committee."

The above Resolution was carried, the result of voting being as follows :

In favour	...	41
Against	...	1
Abstention	...	1

8. *To consider the situation of the Theosophical Society in France including applications for direct affiliation to Adyar.*—The President announced that Monsieur Francis Brunel, General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in France, would arrive at Adyar in time to attend the second session of the General Council. Action on this matter was therefore postponed.

9. *Status of the Theosophical Society in Ireland.*—Owing to political conditions in Ireland it had become necessary some years ago to separate the Lodges in Northern Ireland from the Section and Dr. Hugh Shearman was appointed Presidential Agent for that area. Recently, under Rule 35 (b), these Lodges formed themselves into a Federation, with Dr. Shearman as its elected Organizing Secretary. The Irish Section in Eire has now only four Lodges. As the number of Lodges required to form a National Society was seven according to the Society's Rules and Regulations, the question arose whether the Charter granted to the Section should be withdrawn. Mrs. Evelyn Hornidge, the General Secretary, had written to the President saying that it would be a blow to the work in Eire to have the Section Charter withdrawn and a Federation organized instead.

The matter was fully discussed and the members of the Council were unanimously in favour of the President allowing the Section status to continue for the present, in the hope that with changing conditions there might be an increase in the number of Lodges and members in Eire. A letter would be sent to the General Secretary from the President to this effect.

## MINUTES

*Of Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society,  
held in the H.P.B. Room at Headquarters, Adyar, on  
Thursday, 31st December, 1953, at 2 p.m.*

### Second Session

#### PRESENT :

Mr. N. Sri Ram

Miss Emma Hunt

... *President (in the chair).*

... *Recording Secretary, Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in New Zealand and Mr. N. K. Choksy, Additional Member.*

Mr. H. B. F. Moorhead	... <i>Treasurer.</i>
Mr. Rohit Mehta	... <i>General Secretary, the Theosophical Society in India and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Burma.</i>
Mr. Francis Brunel	... <i>General Secretary, the Theosophical Society in France.</i>
Mr. C. R. Groves	... <i>General Secretary, the Theosophical Society in England, Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Finland and for Mr. H. S. L. Polak, Additional Member.</i>
Mr. J. E. van Dissel	... <i>Additional Member and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Austria.</i>
Srimati Rukmini Devi	... <i>Additional Member and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Switzerland.</i>
Mr. R. M. Alpaiwalla	... <i>Additional Member.</i>
Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti	... <i>Additional Member.</i>

(The President welcomed Mr. Francis Brunel, General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in France, who had arrived after the first meeting of the General Council.)

10. *Appointment of the Executive Committee for 1954.*—The following members were appointed :

President	} <i>Ex-officio</i>
Vice-President	
Recording Secretary	
Treasurer	
Miss Ann Kerr	
Srimati Rukmini Devi	
Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti	
Mr. S. G. Venkataramanan	
Mr. K. S. Rajagopalan	

11. *The Treasurer's Report for 1952-53.*—The audited financial statements of the Society for the official year ended 30th September, 1953, presented by the Hon. Treasurer with his report and recommended by the Executive Committee for adoption, were given consideration and approved.

12. *The Budget for 1953-54.*—The Budget estimates for the year ending 30th September, 1954, passed by the Executive Committee at their meeting held on December 30, 1953, were adopted as detailed :



## THE T.S. HEADQUARTERS, ADYAR, BUDGET FOR 1953-54

EXPENSE	Budget for 1952-'53	Actuals for 1952-'53	Budget for 1953-'54	INCOME	Budget for 1952-'53	Actuals for 1952-'53	Budget for 1953-'54
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment—Salaries and				Rent	54,000	53,904	54,000
Wages and free food ...	31,000	35,222	32,000	Fees and Dues	23,000	35,780	28,600
Repairs and Renewals				Conservancy Charges	1,300	1,404	1,300
(Excess to War-deferred				Garden Income	37,000	31,832	35,050
Maintenance Reserve) ...	30,000	30,000	30,000	Casuarina	10,000	6,797	10,000
Garden Expenses ...	41,000	39,572	42,550	Administration Charges	7,130	7,130	7,130
Miscellaneous ...	7,000	6,939	7,000	Interest (Gross)	32,000	32,422	34,000
Light and Water	5,000	4,525	5,000				
Watch and Ward	14,450	12,720	13,250	<b>Special Departments:</b>			
Postages, Telegrams and				Engineering Depart-			
Telephone ...	3,500	4,824	4,000	ment	93,325	1,14,899	94,750
Printing and Stationery ...	4,500	4,092	4,500	Vasanta Press	1,20,000	1,39,943	1,23,000
Publications to General				Laundry	6,700	5,856	6,000
Secretaries ...	800	692	800	Donations to cover			
Sanitation Expenses ...	4,800	4,089	4,800	deficit	39,520	74,359	39,970
Taxes Account ...	13,500	13,734	14,000				
Interest on Funds and							
Accounts ...	10,000	8,171	8,000				
Convention ...	3,500		2,000				
<b>Contributions:</b>							
Adyar Library ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
Dispensary ...	3,500	3,249	3,500				
President's Travelling							
Fund ...			6,600				
Museum and Archives ...	500	226	500				
The School of the Wisdom..	6,500	6,500	5,000				
<b>Donations to various Funds</b>							
<b>and Accounts</b> ...		17,000					
Bhojanasala—deficit ...	650	161	650				
Leadbeater Chambers—							
deficit ...	1,250	2,775	2,500				
Depreciation ...	17,500	17,471	17,500				
<b>Special Departments:</b>							
Engineering Department...	93,325	1,14,128	94,750				
Vasanta Press ...	1,20,000	1,38,973	1,23,000				
Laundry ...	6,700	6,209	6,900				
Surplus ...		28,054					
	4,23,975	5,04,326	4,33,800		4,23,975	5,04,326	4,33,800

For The Theosophical Society

H. B. F. MOORHEAD,

Hony. Treasurer,

13. *The Appointment of Auditors for 1953-54.*—It was resolved that Messrs. V. Soundararajan & Co., Registered Accountants, be re-appointed Auditors for the year 1953-54 on a remuneration of Rs. 1,300/- per annum, the terms and conditions remaining the same as in previous years.

14. *Issuing of new diplomas to re-joining members.*—Miss F. J. Fraser, National Registrar of the Theosophical Society in Southern Africa, had written on its behalf, asking for information regarding the issuing of diplomas to re-joining members after their membership had lapsed.

It was pointed out that there was no uniform practice in the Sections. Some issue new diplomas to all re-joining members, whether lapsed or resigned. In other Sections, such as U.S.A., India and France, a distinction is made between lapsed and resigned members. It is felt in these Sections that a resigned member on re-joining must fill in a new application form and receive a new diploma. Lapsed members are treated differently—they become active again by paying the dues of the year in which they are re-instated, and they do not re-apply nor do they receive a new diploma.

There was general agreement among the Council members that the above practice of the U.S.A., Indian and French Sections, should be recommended to the Theosophical Society in Southern Africa.

15. *The Three Objects of the Society.*—Mr. J. L. Davidge, General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in Australia, had written drawing attention to the phrase "approval of its three Objects is the sole condition of membership," in the Resolution of the General Council of the Theosophical Society on *Freedom of Thought* passed on 22nd December, 1924, and appearing on the inside cover of every issue of *The Theosophist*. He expressed the opinion that in the present official form for membership "approval" of the Three Objects was to be preferred to "being in sympathy therewith".

The President had asked the views of Mr. N. K. Choksy, the Society's Legal Advisor, a member of the General Council, and Presidential Agent for Ceylon. In reply Mr. Choksy said that he preferred the words "in sympathy therewith" as having less rigid associations. The Council agreed with this view and decided that the phrase "being in sympathy therewith" might remain unchanged in the membership form.

16. *Questions raised by Lt. Col. E. L. Thomson, General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in Canada regarding the autonomy of Sections and Lodges: the power of a General Secretary, or any Lodge, to refuse an applicant for membership in the Society; or any Lodge to refuse a demit from one Lodge to another.*

The President read out his reply to Colonel Thomson containing the following relevant extracts:

"Rule 28 of the Rules and Regulations of the International Society says that every person of ten full years, etc., shall be eligible for membership. The word 'eligible' has a permissive significance and implies the existence of a certain discretion or choice on the part of the admitting authority.

"Rule 30 speaks of Fellows, whether unattached or attached to a Lodge, which seems to indicate that an individual who is admitted as a member of the Society need not necessarily be attached to a Lodge. Both the Lodge and a National Society have a certain right to take into consideration the question whether or not an applicant should be taken in as a member. There is also the possibility of direct attachment to the International Headquarters of the Society. This states the legal and technical position.

"We next come to the question of *how* this discretion which exists should be exercised in the light of the nature of our Society and its objectives. From the early days, the Society has been described in official Charters and Diplomas as 'The Theosophical Society and Universal Brotherhood.' . . . That being so, it does not seem right that we should reject any applicant for his race, caste, sex, colour or creed, whether the creed is religious, political, or any other.

"It seems to me to be in the very nature of our Constitution that we should hold the door wide open, but at the same time we cannot force a group of members, a Lodge, to admit an applicant when they do not want to do so for some strong reasons.

"There is the question: If a Lodge or Section has the right to expel a member in certain circumstances, does it not have a right to refuse to admit an individual when he applies? I personally feel that there should be absolute freedom in our Society for individual members, the natural groups which are the Lodges, and the National Societies. . . . There is no rule, and there can be no rule, describing how this freedom is to be used, even in the matter of admitting a person to the Society. But it is, as I have said, obvious that whatever course of action we decide upon should be in full consonance with the ideal and spirit of Brotherhood.

"As regards a demit, that is merely a formal procedure of transfer, and I do not see why a demit should ever be refused.

"I do not think a Lodge should be chartered for the carrying out of any aims which would tend to narrow down our outlook, which should be as wide as Truth itself. But if a Lodge, because of its particular composition at any particular time, decides upon a certain line of study or discussion, it should be free to follow that line. . . . I see a certain danger in a Lodge becoming, for example, exclusively astrological, or anything else in particular, because I feel that the Society should at every point stand for the widest possible approach and endeavor, along every fruitful line of activity which may afford an outlet for the inner spiritual impulse."

No action was thought necessary by the General Council, and it approved the President's statement.

17. *International Correspondence League*.—Mr. J. E. van Dissel spoke of the difficulties which Miss Amy Makkink, head of the International Correspondence League, was facing in getting members to participate as correspondents.

It was felt by the General Council that this was work coming under the Theosophical Order of Service and could be taken up for consideration at meetings of that organization.

18. *To consider proposals for the amendment of Rule 10 of the Rules and Regulations of the Theosophical Society.*

Members of the General Council had received with their Agenda papers proposals for alterations to Rule 10 which sets out the procedure for election of President of the Theosophical Society.

It was decided to appoint a Committee to give a preliminary consideration to the proposals which had been sent in, and any others that might come in, and present a report to the General Council at its meeting in December 1954.

The following Committee was appointed :

Mr. N. Sri Ram, President.

Miss Emma Hunt, Recording Secretary.

Miss Ann Kerr, Assistant Recording Secretary.

Mr. Rohit Mehta, General Secretary, T.S. in India.

Mr. N. K. Choksy, Additional Member and Legal Advisor to the Society.

Mr. C. R. Groves, General Secretary, T.S. in England.

These were chosen with the view to their meeting together during the year, with the exception of Mr. Groves.

*French Situation.*—It was decided to have a further session of the Council on January 1, 1954 at 2 p.m. to discuss the French situation.

## MINUTES

*Of Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society  
held in the Board Room at Headquarters, Adyar, on  
Friday, 1st January, 1954, at 2 p.m.*

### Third Session

#### PRESENT :

Mr. N. Sri Ram	... President (in the chair).
Miss Emma Hunt	... Recording Secretary, Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in New Zealand and Mr. N. K. Choksy, Additional Member.
Mr. H. B. F. Moorhead	... Treasurer.
Mr. C. R. Groves	... General Secretary, the Theosophical Society in England, Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Finland and for Mr. H. S. L. Polak, Additional Member.



Mr. Rohit Mehta	... General Secretary, the Theosophical Society in India and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Burma.
Mr. Francis Brunel	... General Secretary, the Theosophical Society in France.
Mr. J. E. van Dissel	... Additional Member and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Austria.
Srimati Rukmini Devi	... Additional Member and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Switzerland.
Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti	... Additional Member.
Miss Ann Kerr	... Additional Member.

19. *To consider the situation in the Theosophical Society in France including applications for direct affiliation to Adyar.*—The President stated that applications had been received from certain members and Lodges of the French Section, mostly in the south of France, for direct affiliation to Adyar. He would ask Monsieur Francis Brunel, the General Secretary of the Section, to explain briefly the situation which had led to these applications. But the Council should remember that each Section had its autonomy. If we discussed the situation, which was an internal matter, it was with a view to deciding our course of action in relation to it. The question for him as President to decide was: Should he grant this affiliation to the applying Lodges and members or should he not? According to the Regulations of the International Society, if there is a "sufficient and weighty" reason for such affiliation, then the President may grant it; but he has to take into consideration the probable effect of granting affiliation in this particular case. There has been a situation of bitter and acrimonious controversy lasting for over four years, with the Section split into two groups, one of them no doubt small at present but including some of the most active, earnest and devoted members. There have been moves and counter-moves. Would the granting of the desired affiliation—which would seem natural and right from one point of view—have the effect of preventing the re-establishment of unity, making the split permanent, and even lead to intensified activity of a sort which we should all deplore. The affiliation, if granted, need not be permanent, and we can make it clear that we do not contemplate the creation of a Federation which would tend to stereotype the existing disunity.

Mr. Brunel (after conveying the good wishes of his Section) narrated briefly the history of the controversy and said that the cause of the whole controversy, which turned initially on the disposal of the funds that the late Mme. North-Siegfried had vested by her will in the hands of Prof. Marcault for the benefit of the Theosophical Society in France, had been removed by a Court decision. The French Section which, under the French law, was not entitled to receive such benefactions, had declared to the Court that it made no claim on the funds, and placed in legal custody the monies that it had received, being income from a Foundation that Prof. Marcault had created for its benefit. In any case it was an internal matter for the Section to deal with, and the present authorities of the Section had dealt with it with proper legal advice,

and rectified the irregularity that had been committed in receiving some monies from the Foundation. There was thus no real cause now for disagreement. He himself had been chosen as General Secretary because he had not been involved in the controversy. Now the disagreement is purely a matter of personalities, which should not be encouraged in a Society which stands for Brotherhood. In any organization framed on democratic lines, the minority must be willing to accept the choice of the majority. The Society in France was settling down gradually and increasing its membership among a class of leadership such as professors, doctors, lawyers, etc. It would be a great mistake on the part of the International Society and a tragedy for France, to consider direct affiliation of those who had applied for it. This would revive a campaign that is dying down, and establish rival groups in which the play of personalities would be just the opposite of what the Society in France needs at present. The quarrel would start again.

There was a general discussion in the course of which the President brought up the question of Mme. Suzanne Bock, who had been expelled from the French Section, and said that under the constitution the President of the Theosophical Society is the sole authority for granting and withdrawing charters and diplomas. Expulsion from a Section did not mean expulsion from the Society.

Mr. Francis Brunel said that there were special circumstances which led to the expulsion of Mme. Bock and two other members. The two latter had worked for the dissolution of the Society by denouncing it to the Government authorities. The Council of the French Section was of the opinion that Mme. Bock had acted against the interests of the Section.

The President pointed out that that might be the opinion of the majority, and a good reason, from their point of view, for not having her in the Section Council. But he could not accept the view that she was not fit to be a member of the Society. Assuming she had acted unwisely and done wrong things, which of us could say that he himself had never been unwise nor acted wrongly? Our Brotherhood should include all.

The President proposed to ask the French Section Council if it would agree to the appointment of a Presidential delegate who would be charged with the duty of approaching the Lodges and members which had seceded, as well as those which remain in the Section with the sole aim of bringing about harmony in the Section. This Presidential delegate would also be able thus to gain the necessary information for further guidance. He, the President, will, if the French Council agrees, select a person who would be acceptable to the Section, and has not been involved in any way in the controversy. As regards Mme. Suzanne Bock, he was in favor of granting her application to be affiliated to Adyar, as she had been expelled from the Section and had not voluntarily resigned from it.

The President's proposal was approved by all the members present, including Mr. Brunel.

EMMA HUNT,  
Recording Secretary

# SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1953

National Sections (Active) ...	40			No. of Lodges	No. of Members
Presidential Agencies (Active)	4				
Federations formed under Rule 35(b) ...	1				
Total Lodges (1953) ...	1,349				
Total Membership :					
1952 ...	32,306				
1953 ...	32,450				
Increase ...	144				
		No. of Lodges	No. of Members		
1. United States of America ...	149	4,075	26. Mexico ...	25	484
2. England ...	117	3,200	27. Canada ...	11	379
3. India ...	394	6,505	28. Argentina ...	65	1,525
4. Australia ...	16	1,210	29. Chile ...	10	139
5. Sweden ...	20	422	30. Brazil ...	37	896
6. New Zealand ...	17	921	31. Bulgaria ...	—	—
7. Netherlands ...	37	1,641	32. Iceland ...	8	287
8. France ...	64	1,562	33. Spain ...	—	—
9. Italy ...	34	1,009	34. Portugal ...	13	234
10. Germany ...	20	623	35. Wales ...	7	178
11. Cuba ...	33	621	36. Poland ...	—	—
12. Hungary ...	—	—	37. Uruguay ...	7	78
13. Finland ...	22	708	38. Puerto Rico ...	7	99
14. Czechoslo- vakia ...	—	—	39. Rumania ...	—	—
15. Southern Africa..	17	638	40. Yugoslavia ...	—	—
16. Scotland ...	20	288	41. Ceylon* ...	2	64
17. Switzerland ...	12	258	42. Greece ...	7	199
18. Belgium ...	11	321	43. Central America.	10	148
19. Indonesia ...	16	599	44. Paraguay ...	—	—
20. Burma ...	7	79	45. Peru ...	9	120
21. Austria ...	13	317	46. Philippines ...	13	159
22. Norway ...	7	163	47. Colombia ...	11	135
23. Egypt ...	—	—	48. British East Africa	10	259
24. Denmark ...	12	316	49. Pakistan* ...	6	312
25. Ireland ...	4	43	50. Malaya & Singapore*	4	107 (1952)
			51. Northern Ireland†	3	70
			52. Viet-Nam	7	268
			53. State of Israel*	1	19
			54. Japan	—	2
			55. Venezuela	7	49
			56. Canadian Federation	8	224
			57. Libertad Lodge (Argentina)	1	21
			58. Fellows-at-large	—	5
			59. Lodges and members attached to Adyar	15 3	189 282
			Total ...	1,349	32,450

\* Presidential Agency.

† Federations.

(MISS) EMMA HUNT,  
Recording Secretary.





